



SAVE AMERICA'S HERITAGE

Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Final Report and Preliminary Inventory
of
Washington County, Nebraska
Reconnaissance and Intensive Surveys

prepared for

Nebraska State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office

by

John Kay - Principal Investigator
Laird Haberlan - Survey Assistant
Mary Findlay - Survey Historian
Penny Chatfield Sodhi - Survey Historian

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The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preserving our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts, but the notion of recording historical structures as a preservation activity remains a publicly obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) has established an ongoing Historic Building Survey (NeHBS) which deals with the priorities of recording our built heritage. Save America's Heritage has engaged in a contract with the NeSHPO to conduct the reconnaissance and intensive surveys of Washington County in eastern Nebraska. It is SAVE's belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A city, its inhabitants and its development through time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we arrive at a fuller and more sympathetic comprehension of the present.

The intent of the survey was to document resources which contribute to the evolving context of Nebraska's historic architecture. The NeHBS survey should be used not only as an information resource in the field of preservation but also to express a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

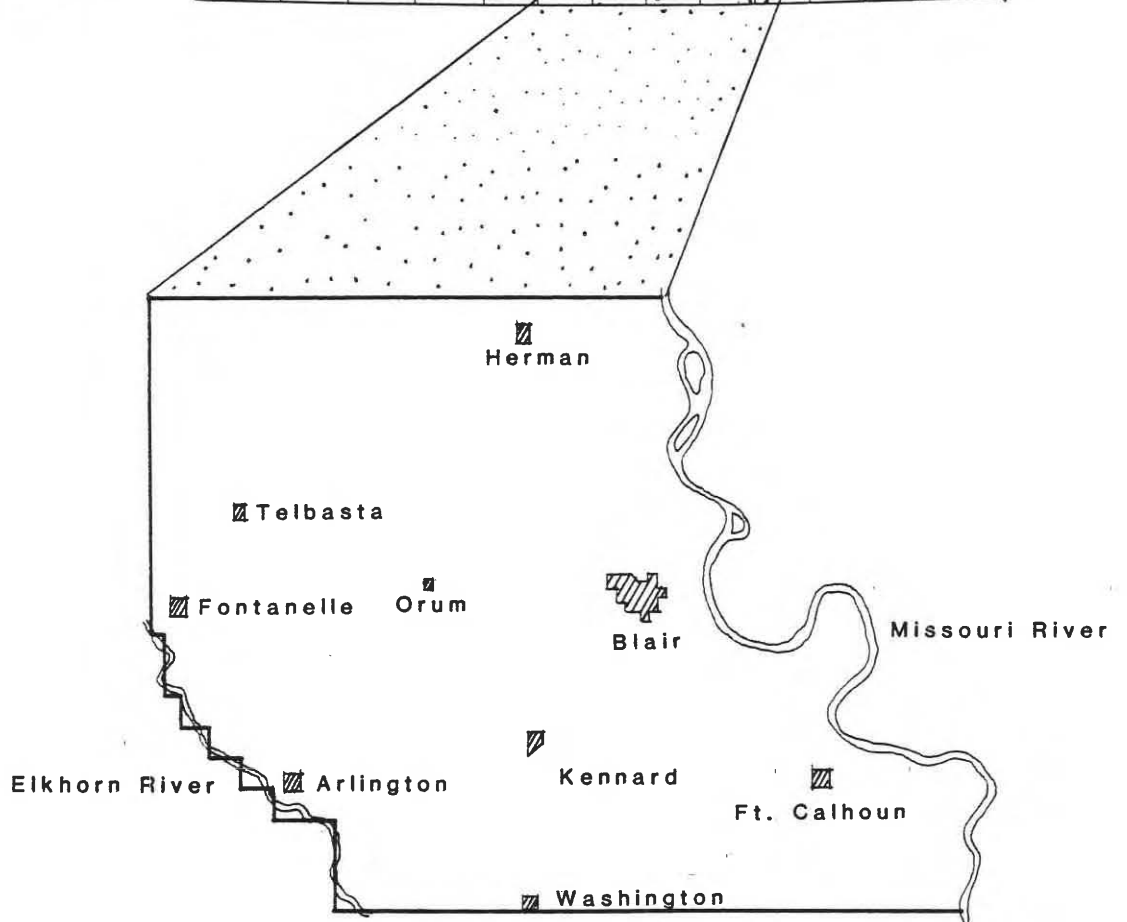
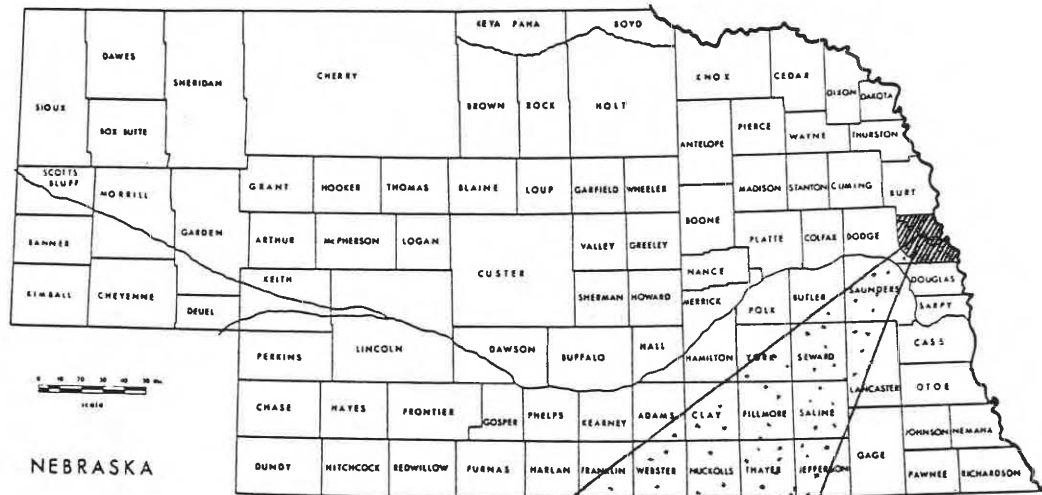
Introduction



Before moving into the heart of this report, an explanation of its organization is necessary. Our attempt to interpret and present our findings has focused on the three historic contexts and their respective resources. We have made a conscientious effort to reference the significant properties according to their relationship with the historic contexts identified within this study area. These three contexts are: 1) Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production agriculture, 2) Danish-American influences, and 3) Retail Commerce. Consequently, the bulk of the final report consists of the presentation of these context-related resources in Appendices 1, 2 and 3. Prior to this inventory, however, the reader will find an historic overview of Washington County followed by a discussion of the survey methodology (research design, limits and biases). Succeeding this section is a summary of the reconnaissance survey, and a discussion of future priorities.

Although it appears a rather verbose and lengthy document, the report is intended to be a resource which is referred to repeatedly in the discussion or research of historic buildings. SAVE admits that to read this document in one sitting may become somewhat tedious, so it is our recommendation to focus upon the historic resources included in the Preliminary Inventory.

The Study Area / Historic Overview



Washington County

Historic Overview

Washington County was one of the original eight counties formed at the opening of Nebraska Territory in 1854. The Kansas-Nebraska Act opened those territories for white settlement. Washington County was therefore settled earlier than most of Nebraska's 93 counties, and has a territorial history going back to the beginnings of the state. The county was the most northerly of the first eight counties, all of which bordered the Missouri River. Since early settlers tended to come up the river from the state of Missouri and across from Iowa, most early settlement in Nebraska was in the southeastern corner of the state. Washington County did experience territorial settlement which was significant when compared to the entire state, but it was to a lesser degree than the other seven initial counties.

The Historic Overview will discuss certain specific topics important to understanding the development of the county, i.e., soil, climate, pre-territorial history, town development, rural settlements, railroad history, major ethnic groups, dairying, and designated historic places. This is not a complete history of the county. Three important topics are discussed in detail in the historic context reports: Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock area farming system, Danish Overlay, and the Retail-Commerce historic context.

Location

Washington County is located in eastern Nebraska midway between the north and south borders of the state. The Missouri River is the eastern boundary of the county with Dodge County on the west, Burt County on the north and Douglas County on the south. Omaha, the state's largest metropolitan area, is approximately 15 miles to the south.

Surface

Two of Nebraska's major rivers, the Missouri River and the Elkhorn River, bound portions of Washington County. Several creeks, including Bell Creek and the Big Papillion (Papio), are important features on the landscape. Historically, strong timber stands were found growing along the banks of Washington County rivers and streams. Rough hilly bluffs,

especially along the Missouri River, comprise a small portion of the county land area and is generally in use as permanent pasture land. Nearly one-third of the 400 square mile area of the county is river or creek bottom lands. The remainder is upland or gently rolling prairie. These lands are well suited to cultivation and over 80 percent of Washington County's land is cultivated.

Soil

Loess hills form the predominant soil type in Washington County, the most extensive type of soil in the state. The soil is of windblown origin and is formed of silt and clay. These soils are able to retain a large amount of water for plant use and hold essential plant nutrients as well. Corn, wheat and alfalfa are especially adapted to this soil.

Climate

Hot summers, cold winters and frequent winds characterize Nebraska's climate. In Washington County the average amount of annual precipitation is 30 inches. This is a sufficient amount to support corn production. The length of the growing season is long enough to support a variety of crops.

Pre-territorial History

The history of the Native Americans in the area now called Washington County is a significant part of its heritage. Lewis and Clark discussed the Omahas, Otoes, Pawnees, and Missouris who lived in the regions near the Missouri River. A discussion of Native American history and its subsequent archeological component is not part of this study. Native Americans were in residence in the county in the 1850's, at the time of white settlement, and are mentioned to a limited extent in the early history books.

Important pre-1854 events in the history of white contact in the area include the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Fort Atkinson, and the Mormons. On their 1804-06 expedition to the northwest, Lewis and Clark held their first significant meeting with Indian chiefs of various

tribes at Council Bluff, near the later site of Fort Atkinson. Active from 1819 to 1827, Fort Atkinson was the first significant military post in the trans-Missouri west. The site has been excavated by the Nebraska State Historical Society, is listed in the National Register, and is now an historic park of the State Game and Parks Commission. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints occupied land near the now-abandoned townsite of Desoto as a farming and outfitting area for Mormons preparing to go to Utah. The area was occupied from 1847 until the mid-1850's.

A number of fur trading posts and winter encampments were located along the Missouri River in what is now Washington County. The earliest was Cruzatte's Post in 1802. Cabanne's first trading post was from 1822-26 near the later Rockport. Manuel Lisa's post, Fort Lisa, was a mile or two north of Cabanne's from 1812 to 1823. Engineer Cantonment was the winter encampment of Major Long's expedition in 1819-20. Camp Missouri was the winter encampment of the troops of the Yellowstone expedition (Shrader, 1937, pp. 43-44).

The Urban Frontier

The establishment of towns followed quickly after the opening of the territory. They can realistically be called the first frontier. The Washington County towns can be divided into four categories: existing territorial towns, abandoned towns, paper towns, and railroad towns.

Fontanelle and Fort Calhoun are the existing territorial towns. The village of Fontanelle was founded by the Nebraska Colonization Company of Quincy, Illinois. The Society was organized in 1854 and sent a committee to choose a townsite in the fall of that year. The present site on the banks of the Elkhorn River was chosen. The committee then met with Logan Fontanelle, the chief of the Omaha Indians, to secure his goodwill, and the town was named in his honor. The first settlers arrived in the autumn of 1854. The company sent their agent to the Territorial Legislature to attempt to locate the capital at Fontanelle. Omaha gained the designation, but a charter for a college under Baptist

auspices was approved and Fontanelle was named the county seat of Dodge County. The college was later reorganized under the auspices of the Congregational Church and was eventually closed and reabsorbed into the new Congregational school of Doane College at Crete. The boundaries of Dodge and Washington Counties were changed in 1858-59, placing Fontanelle in the latter county and thus forcing its loss as a county seat. Although the town was important to the early history of Congregationalism in the state, the college left within a few years. The colonization company appears to have had a fairly broad constituency, for the German members organized a church, Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, which is the second oldest Evangelical Lutheran church in the state. The railroad never went through the town, and it never grew much beyond its small original size.

Fort Calhoun was claimed in 1854 by a company consisting of Council Bluffs (Iowa) and Omaha men, including Mark W. Izard, governor of the territory. The townsite was chosen adjacent to the abandoned site of Fort Atkinson, of which the ruins of a stone magazine remained. The town was designated the county seat by an act of the Legislature the following year. This designation was lost to Desoto in 1858. The Omaha and Northwestern Railroad was built through Fort Calhoun in 1871. In spite of the loss of the county seat, Fort Calhoun has remained a prosperous small town to the present time.

There are a number of abandoned towns from the county's territorial era. Rockport began as a trading post and was a steamboat landing along the Missouri in the southeast corner of the county. With the passing of the steamboat era, the town ceased to exist within a few years. Cuming City was also claimed in 1854 and settled the following year in the precinct which bears that name. When the railroad organized the town of Blair nearby and secured the county seat there, Cuming City died rather quickly. Desoto was the most prominent of the towns which no longer exists. It became the county seat in 1858 and lost it a few years later. The founding of Blair in close proximity and the first railroad there spelled the end of Desoto. The townsite is now abandoned; a small

cemetery is extant. The present unincorporated town of Desoto is not the original location.

The county had two paper towns. Golden Gate was listed on an 1857 map but no known sources discuss any community there. Hudson has a more colorful history. Hudson was a fraud perpetrated by W. E. Walker of Connecticut. It existed only in the plats and lithographs which Walker used to sell lots after his lectures. The actual site was a swamp in a northeastern corner of the county. Walker had a companion paper town across the Missouri River at "Melrose," Iowa.

Railroad Towns

Settlers were anxious to have the railroad come through their town. This was seen as a key to the survival and growth of the community. Lands along the railroads tended to be settled rapidly as both farmers and businessmen saw the advantages of the railroad for the shipping and receiving of farm products and goods from the east.

Interest in establishing a railroad in Washington County began as early as 1864 when the Northern Nebraska Air Line Railroad Company was formed; however, no construction was begun. The Northern Nebraska Railroad Company was reorganized in 1867. The directors and lobbyist J. S. Bower were trying to secure land grants and money from the state so that construction could begin. At the same time, the struggle for location of the state capital was taking place. Thomas P. Kennard and others from Washington County sided with supporters of Lincoln for the state capital in exchange for land grants for the railroad. A grant of 75 sections of land followed and construction of a temporary line from Desoto to Fremont was begun. John I. Blair and associates bought the franchise in 1868 and changed the name to the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad. By the end of the following year, the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad was completed from the Missouri River east of Blair to Fremont in Dodge County. The towns of Blair, Kennard and Bell Creek were established along this new railroad.

Blair was the site chosen for the railroad to cross the Missouri River into Nebraska by John I. Blair and associates. Blair was located

on land purchased by John I. Blair who had the town platted in 1869. That same year the county seat was moved to Blair from Fort Calhoun. Blair's growth and prosperity were ensured with both the county seat and the railroad located there. Several churches and businesses from Desoto and Cuming City were moved to Blair soon after the railroad located there. These churches and businesses joined others which were being constructed, thereby giving the town a healthy start. The rapid growth of the first years slowed but continued at a continuous steady pace. The growth of Blair was enhanced by the establishment in 1884 of Trinity Seminary, the forerunner of Dana College. Blair residents raised money to be matched by area Danish churches to construct "Old Main" (NRHP) which was completed in 1886. Dana College has made a fine contribution to the educational and cultural life of Blair. The present courthouse, designed by architect O. H. Placey, was constructed in 1889. It remains a symbol of the capital of county government. Blair (approximate population 6,400), by far the largest town in the county, remains the governmental, business and educational center of Washington County.

Kennard was platted by the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad in 1869. The town was named in honor of Thomas P. Kennard for his role in securing the land grant for the railroad. Like all railroad towns, Kennard relied on the trains for transportation. The connections at Arlington and Blair enabled inhabitants to travel to Omaha or beyond. Kennard was located near enough to larger towns that it has remained a small farming community in Washington County.

Arlington, or Bell Creek as it was called until 1882, was the third town in Washington County platted as the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad line in its extension to Fremont. The town grew steadily with many businesses established initially. The single most important business in the town was Marshall Nurseries. It was founded in 1887 with the aim of supplying trees, shrubs and plants adapted to the region. Marshall Nurseries supplied not only Washington and neighboring counties with plants of many kinds, but eventually expanded beyond the borders of the state. Arlington remains a prosperous community of about 1,100 and is the second largest town in the county.

Two other railroads played a part in the establishment or growth of Washington County communities. The town of Herman was established at the end of the Omaha and Northwestern Railroad line from Omaha in 1871. The town of Washington was platted in 1887 when a branch of the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad was completed from Arlington into Omaha, for an Omaha connection to that railroad along the Elkhorn valley.

Rural Communities

There are a number of small rural communities in the county which are named and some have been a focus for rural community life for many years. Some of them were rural post offices (Admah, Fletcher, Vacoma, and Hayes). Some had a store established there (Orum, Telbasta, Admah, Vacoma, Fletcher, Spiker, and New England). Two rural railroad stations were established: Mills in Desoto Precinct and Hiland in Cuming City Precinct, the latter of which was a livestock loading point. Some have ethnic associations: a German community north of Arlington and the German cemetery in Richland Precinct.

People: Census Data

An important aspect of the history of a county is the ethnic diversity of the people who came, settled, and established their homes and livelihoods there. The settlers of Washington County came from almost every state in the United States and from almost 20 European countries. To help understand the significant ethnic groups, a general analysis of the census data was undertaken.

Three U.S. censuses were chosen: 1880, 1900, and 1910. The 1880 census was chosen as a pre-Danish immigration year because Wayne Wheeler (1975) listed no Danes in that year. (This proved to be incorrect based on the census data and other secondary sources.) The 1890 census has been destroyed, and the 1910 census is the latest available census. These years will cover the major time of foreign immigration to the state and county. It was decided to record the birthplace of all persons age 18 and older; in the interest of time, not all persons were

recorded. The initial list of countries for foreign-born persons was based on those identified by Wheeler with some alterations; they are as follows:

Austria	Holland	Scotland
Bohemia	Hungary	Sweden
Denmark	Ireland	Switzerland
England	Poland	Wales
France	Norway	Other
Germany	Russia	

Recording the U.S.-born persons by each state was not useful in terms of time or in the types of conclusions we were attempting to draw. The states were grouped by region with the assistance of Kathleen Fimple, Preservation Historian, N.S.H.S. and Henry Glassie (1968, figure 9).

The groupings are as follows:

North: NY, ME, NH, VT, CT, RI, MI, WI, MN

Mid-Atlantic: PA, NJ, DE, MD

Upland South: VA, WV, KY, TN

Lowland South: LA, MS, AR, AL, GA, FL, SC, NC

Midwest: OH, IN, IL, IA, MO

Other U.S.

Nebraska

The 1880 U.S. census does not use the name "Germany" (which was not unified until 1870), but lists nativity by German states and principalities. We recorded nativity by the state listed. Then, for the purpose of understanding the variety of German states, they were grouped by regions. This was particularly useful for the Danish Overlay study because the northern states of Schleswig and Holstein have strong Danish associations and could be placed culturally in association with Danes.

The German regions and the states we found listed in this study are as follows:

North: Schleswig, Holstein, Hanover, Hamburg, Oldenburg, Bremen

East: Prussia, Mecklenburg

Rhineland: Westphalia, Hesse, Lieppe, Detmold, Waldeck, Nassau

Central: Saxony

South: Bavaria, Wurttemberg, Baden, Alsace

The German-born persons were the largest single group of foreign-born residents in the county; this is also true of Nebraska in general. The German-born persons were prominent in many precincts (see below). The percentage is of total persons recorded in that geographic unit.

<u>Precincts</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Fontanelle	53%	38%	24%
Sheridan	30%	29%	21%
Richland	37%	34%	26%
Fort Calhoun	34%	29%	20%
Lincoln	23%	22%	13%
Arlington	20%	16%	13%
<u>Towns</u>			
Fontanelle	32%	No data	No data

This lists six out of the 12 rural precincts as having significant percentages of German-born residents. The decline in the percentages over time is matched by an increase in the percentage of Nebraska-born persons (only those over 18 years old are recorded). This suggests that perhaps the amount of immigration, in percentage terms, did not maintain the pre-1880 levels and that the Nebraska-born children of German parents are reaching adulthood by 1900 and 1910. The Germans were not prominent in the towns of the county. The percentage in Blair for the three censuses was 6%, 9%, 7%, and this was typical. The Germans appear to have been mainly farmers.

The unique case of the 1880 census which listed Germans by their native states yielded some interesting results. Since there was only one year's worth of data, there is not enough information to know if these results held true over time. Certain precincts were predominantly Prussian or North German and not equal mixes of both. In Fontanelle Precinct, the township with the highest percentage of Germans (53%), 64% of them were East Germans. In the village of Fontanelle (32% German), half of the Germans were from Prussia. In real numbers, Richland

Precinct had the highest number of Germans (121, 39%), 108 of which were from Prussia and not a single person was from northern Germany. Fort Calhoun Precinct Germans were overwhelmingly North German (94 out of 110; 29% of the total population). Sheridan Precinct was 30% German which divides into 18% Prussian and 11% North German. This precinct was also 12% Dane. If one assumes that the North Germans have cultural affinity with the Danish, then there are 23% with Danish cultural associations and 18% Prussian. Grant Precinct had comparatively few Germans (10%) which were split nearly in half between North and East Germans. However, if the North Germans (4%) are added to the high percentage of Scandinavians (Danes, 15%; Norwegians, 9%; and Swedes, 8%), there are 36% with Scandinavian association.

The second largest group of foreign-born residents in Washington County were the Danes. A discussion of the data on the Danes' censuses is in the Danish Overlay report.

The third and fourth largest groups of foreign-born residents are the Swedish and the English. They are significantly less than the German and Danish people.

	<u>Swedes</u>		
	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Blair Pct.	0	7%	5%
Lincoln Pct.	7%	2%	0
Grant Pct.	8%	6%	3%
Kennard	No data	3%	3%
Blair	0	1%	2%

	<u>English</u>		
	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Blair, Ward 2	No data	2%	3%
Blair, Ward 4	No data	1%	1%
Arlington	4%	1%	1%
Cuming City Pct.	4%	0.2%	0

The English settlers only had measurable percentages in towns. Blair, Ward 2, is the only location where the percentage of English increased over time. The Second Ward appears to have been the "better"

side of town. The largest and most prominent collection of 19th century houses in Blair is in this ward, along with the Episcopal, Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist churches (see chart for the full ethnic make-up of the ward).

The U.S.-born persons are the majority of the population even in the 1880 census, and the percentage increases over time. The towns are more likely to have the highest percentages of U.S.-born, northern-U.S.-born, and English-born residents. In 1880 the places with over 80% U.S.-born persons are Blair, Herman, Herman Precinct and Cuming City Precinct. By 1910 the same category included Blair, Wards 1, 2 and 3, Arlington, Arlington Precinct, and Fort Calhoun Precinct. By the later years the U.S.-born includes the children of immigrants as well as those of long-time U.S. residents.

The category with the highest percentage is the Midwest-born. High percentages of northern-U.S.-born almost always follow with high numbers of Midwest-born. The places with the highest percentages of these people are the towns of Blair, Fort Calhoun, Herman, and Arlington and Cuming City Precinct (see below).

	1880		1900		1910	
	<u>North</u>	<u>Midwest</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>Midwest</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>Midwest</u>
Blair, Ward 1	No data	No data	11%	39%	8%	38%
Blair, Ward 2	No data	No data	18%	36%	11%	28%
Blair, Ward 3	No data	No data	16%	35%	10%	40%
Blair, Ward 4	No data	No data	8%	30%	7%	28%
Blair city totals	26%	40%	13%	35%	9%	34%
Fort Calhoun (town)	38%	28%	11%	26%	13%	21%
Herman (town)	24%	47%	10%	61%	9%	32%
Arlington (town)	27%	33%	11%	40%	3%	35%
Cuming City Pct.	14%	49%	10%	37%	6%	28%
Herman Pct.	20%	46%	7%	39%	3%	30%
Arlington Pct.	18%	25%	7%	28%	3%	25%
Desoto Pct.	14%	34%	14%	34%	3%	24%

Persons born in the Upland South have no significant numbers or percentages with the exception of the village of Kennard where in 1900, 12% were in that category, primarily Virginians, and in 1910, 14%.

There was no data for 1880. The Lowland South had no significant groupings.

The Mid-Atlantic-born persons had two towns, Blair and Arlington, and Blair Precinct which had small but measurable numbers and percentages over time (see following).

	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Arlington	11%	6%	6%
Blair (town)	8%	5%	3%
Blair Pct.	11%	5%	2%

In conclusion, the largest groups were the Germans, Danes, and Midwesterners. In broad terms, they each were a prominent minority or possibly majority in certain precincts and towns. The Germans, the largest foreign-born group, were prominent in the rural precincts of Fontanelle, Richland, Sheridan, Fort Calhoun, Lincoln, and Arlington. They were significant in only one town, Fontanelle. The Danes, the second largest foreign-born group and only other major foreign-born group, were significant in the precincts of Blair, Grant, Herman, and Lincoln. Lincoln Precinct also had a significant number of Germans. Danes were prominent in Kennard, Washington, and the Fourth Ward of Blair. The Midwesterners were more often in significant numbers in the towns, i.e., Blair, Fort Calhoun, Herman, Arlington, and Kennard. Kennard also had significant numbers of Danes. Four rural precincts had significant numbers of Midwesterners: Cuming City, Herman, Arlington, and Desoto, although Herman also had numbers of Danes and Arlington had many Germans. Where the Midwesterners were prominent, the northern-U.S.-born, Mid-Atlantic-born, and, to some extent, the English, were also prominent. It is interesting that when these three groups (Germans, Danes, and Midwesterners) are mapped as the prominent groups, the entire county is divided into possible cultural affiliations. This should not be overstated however, because none are the majority in our study. Although if children under 18 were added, a majority might be reached. However, the term Midwesterners does not mean a single cultural heritage. Many are of New England stock moving into Ohio,

Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa to Nebraska; many others are of German heritage from Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Iowa to Nebraska.

Dairying

Dairying is and has been an important component of the agriculture in Washington County. Interest in dairying began in the 1880's. The Nebraska Creamery Association was established in Fremont in 1885. Dairying as an industry expanded in the early 20th century. Milk was still supplied on a small-scale, local basis, but creameries for butter production increased in number and volume. Throughout the state, cream was separated and sold on a butterfat basis, some to local creameries, but more commonly assembled locally and shipped to centralized creameries where it was manufactured into butter. The use of silage was an innovation which cut the cost of butter by 20% and therefore, a large number of silos were built in the teens. In the 1920's the expansion of dairying was in part due to stable prices for dairy products compared to other farm prices. Promoting dairy products to the public by state and national dairy groups was another factor in the expansion. In 1928, Washington County ranked highest in the state along with Douglas and Lancaster Counties in the number of dairy cattle per section. Typically, dairies were located near larger cities where there was a market for milk as well as processed dairy products such as butter and cheese. Statewide, there has been a constant decrease in the numbers of dairy cattle since 1950; although production per cow has increased significantly so that total milk production has decreased at a fairly slow rate. The decrease in the number of dairy cows was accompanied by a significant reduction in the number of small herds (less than 10 cows). This reduction of small herds was probably due to the large capital investments required to meet Grade A and environmental regulations. By 1979, Washington County ranked 16th in the state in number of milk cows by county.

Historic Sites

Washington County has a variety of sites on the National Register of Historic Places. Governmental, educational, military, religious and business sectors of the county are represented there. Territorial history is expressed in the Fort Atkinson and Bertrand sites. NRHP sites in Blair:

- Abraham Castetter House, home of an influential banker
- Congregational Church of Blair, one of the few carpenter gothic churches in the state
- C. C. Crowell, Jr. House, home of a family involved in the lumber, grain and elevator business
- Trinity Seminary Building ("Old Main" of Dana College). Dana became the only four-year liberal arts college to be established by Danish immigrants.

Other NRHP sites in Washington County:

- Desoto National Wildlife Refuge, The Bertrand. Missouri River steamboat of the early 1860's
- Fontanelle, Fontanelle Township Hall. Uncommon building type in Nebraska, a product of county organization which instituted local control of certain phases of government work.
- Fort Calhoun, Fort Atkinson State Historical Park. The first significant military outpost to be established in the trans-Missouri region.

The society for the Preservation of Historic Blair identified a number of potential sites in Blair which are listed below. These sites were identified in the 1981 Blair Comprehensive Plan.

- O'Hanlon and Nelson Law Office, 15th & Washington
- Huber Building, 16th & Washington
- Hansen Insurance Building, 16th & Washington
- Ben Franklin Store, 17th & Washington
- Odd Fellows Building, 16th & Washington
- School Administration Building, 15th & Lincoln
- Quist Law Office, 18th & Lincoln

Final Comments

Washington County has been a prosperous county. The soils and topography are excellent for the Intensive Meat-production farming system which has in general provided good income for the producers over the years. Dairy farms developed on the southern border of the county in the 20th century to provide dairy products to Omaha. Prominent urban centers have not developed in the county because of the proximity to Fremont and Omaha. Blair has remained the prominent and largest since the 1860's and 70's when two railroads and the county seat were located there.

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Survey Methodology and Research Design

Research Design

Introduction

It is the intention of this paper to contribute two important functions towards the execution of both the reconnaissance- and intensive-level surveys. First, it will provide SAVE's survey teams with the guidelines by which both forms of survey must be performed and secondly, it establishes a means of communicating these guidelines to project management personnel for critique and refinement.

The format of this Research Design will be to discuss both the "mechanical" and "non-mechanical" aspects of the surveys. The primary purpose of the "mechanical" discussion is to define the documentation process used in the execution of the surveys. The "non-mechanical" aspects which require definition will consist of the survey objectives and expectations and becomes the starting point of this paper.

Objectives of Reconnaissance Survey

After completing a preliminary outline of the objectives associated with a reconnaissance survey, it became apparent that there was an obvious breakdown between those objectives which were qualitative in nature and those that were quantitative. This breakdown has organized the reconnaissance objectives into the two listings that follow.

Qualitative Objectives

The most obvious objective of a reconnaissance-level survey is the concept of providing a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in a particular geographic area. Beyond this are several other very important objectives which may be used to enhance both the importance of the information generated by the reconnaissance-level survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these additional objectives is the notion of establishing the context of Nebraska's historic architecture. Each reconnaissance survey performed will generate information which contributes to this context and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with. Secondly, it is the objective of the survey to identify specific

properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the above-mentioned contexts. Further qualitative objectives include: the possible identification of specific building types; forms of construction which may relate or are unique to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture; the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing; and the expansion of knowledge relative to a specific geographic area within the state context, such as ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

Quantitative Objectives

1. To identify historic properties in each of the nine following types: a) ecclesiastical, b) commercial, c) town-residential, d) rural-residential, e) industrial, f) engineering, g) agricultural, h) transportation, and i) public buildings.
2. The recording of an estimated 550 sites in Washington County at the completion of the survey.
3. The covering of 409 square miles translating into 100% of the study area.
4. Identification of at least 10-12 sites per context worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
5. Identification of at least one possible Thematic or Multiple Resource nomination in relation to the three contexts.
6. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those sites for a) high potential for significance, b) suspicious buildings--those buildings that may be of significance, c) no potential in comparison to others, d) those sites not likely to yield any information in relation to the three specified contexts.
7. Preparation of an intensive survey form to be used in conjunction with the three identified contexts in expectation that the information contained therein will contribute to one thematic nomination.

Objectives of Intensive Survey

The intensive-level survey conducted by Save America's Heritage for the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) is designed to accomplish several fundamental goals. Perhaps the most important of these goals is the relationship of intensive-level survey to the National Register of Historic Places. SAVE will compile the proper types and amounts of data necessary to evaluate the significance of a property for inclusion in the National Register. The format of this recorded information must be compatible with the format of the National Register nomination form. Therefore, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Form will serve as a model for the topical information to be recorded by SAVE's survey teams.

A second goal of the intensive survey is the compilation of data relating to contextual and thematic topics identified by the State Historic Preservation Office and included in the contractual agreement. Documentation of these resources should contribute to either the establishment of the respective context or further define existing contextual knowledge. It is the goal of the intensive-level survey to identify by recordation the fundamental characteristics, images and intrarelations of the context-related sites. (For specific information concerning the identified contexts, see Appendices A, B, and C.)

Existing information in the NeSHPO files will be evaluated for compatibility with the contexts outlined in the contract. In the case where previously documented resources are compatible with the designated contexts, a conscientious effort will be made to include this information within the survey-generated data.

Methods of Reconnaissance & Intensive Survey

The "mechanical" aspect of reconnaissance and intensive-level surveys focuses primarily upon the documentation process and corresponding methods used in the recording of historical resources. The recording technique is considered of prime importance and it is the attitude of Save America's Heritage to strive for a conscientious effort and accurate method while recording historic resources. To best communicate

our intentions, the following discussion on survey methods has been organized into three groupings. These are: 1) pre-field research, 2) pre-field activities, and 3) field activities.

Pre-Field Research

Following the selection of the survey's geographical boundaries by the NeSHPO, the pre-field research is begun and focuses primarily on the performance of archival research. The main purpose of archival research is to identify the nature of the survey area's settlement by culture, geographic location and time frame. In addition, the archival research should attempt to identify potential themes of architectural, cultural and historical significance within the survey area, should they exist. While it is acknowledged that the extent and availability of research information varies according to the events and background of the area, the following references will be investigated prior to the reconnaissance survey: locally written county histories; county histories written within a statewide history; existing survey data in the NeSHPO site files including survey forms; the files of the NSHS photographic collections; centennial publications on community and church histories; archival maps and atlases; newspaper articles concerning a community's built environment; and literature published by local or county historical groups. The majority of these types of publications can be found in the libraries of state and county historical societies. A bibliography of all sources referenced should be maintained and, along with photocopies information, added to the site files. These general data files are organized according to specific counties, local communities and individual sites. The files are used prior to reconnaissance survey to familiarize the surveyors with the survey area and are consulted again in the field during survey. Added to the general files are all forms of public correspondence received up to the point the survey is begun.

Due to the absence of existing context reports, extensive preparation becomes necessary to satisfactorily develop the concepts of the reports. The delineation of the individual contexts is considered a

most important task. Therefore, the following is an outline of the contextual methodology to be employed by SAVE's personnel during the phase of pre-field research.

Each historical contextual unit will identify important patterns, events, persons or cultural values pertaining to that topic. It is anticipated that information within the Context Report will aid in the identification of property types associated with each individual theme. In the preparation of the historical context, the following will be considered:

- A. Trends in area settlement and development.
- B. Aesthetic and artistic values embodied in architecture, construction technology or craftsmanship.
- C. Research values or problems relevant to the historic context; social and physical sciences and humanities; and cultural interests of local communities.
- D. Intangible cultural values of ethnic groups and native American people.

Pre-Field Activities

The topic of pre-field activities are considered separate from pre-field research on the basis of their more publicly extroverted nature. Save America's Heritage will begin the pre-field activities with the distribution of notices announcing the survey and it's intentions to all the general public. This will be done by placing general notices in established commercial and non-commercial facilities of the communities, such as the U.S. Post Office, grocery stores, donut shops, etc. Reinforcing this is the dispersal of press releases to all active newspapers existing in the county. The intent of the release is to inform the public of the survey program and to solicit their input in the identification of historic resources. In addition to this, communication will be established with the local historians and historical societies detailing our intent and welcoming their possible input. Included in this communication will be information concerning the thematic topics and the time frame of the survey. The final task of

pre-field activity will be the precautionary attempts to eliminate public suspicion. The justifiable suspicion aroused by survey activities will potentially be eliminated through the listing of survey vehicles and personnel with local police departments and county sheriff patrols. (For examples of typical communications, see Appendix D.)

Field Activities: General

The first step prior to embarking on the survey would be the assemblage of the necessary documents used during the recording of identified sites. This includes town plat maps, USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps, county road maps and the preparation of the Context Reports and Historical Overview. The recording of a county's significant sites would be conducted during the reconnaissance survey and would consist of identifying structures, mapping locations and photographic documentation. Any supplemental field notes derived from observations or public communications will also be added.

The reconnaissance photography would consist of two photographs per site from opposite 45 degree angles using a wide angle perspective correcting lens. In certain cases, additional photographs of the more significant structures will be recorded showing context, detailing or construction. Brief descriptions of each site will be recorded to define basic characteristics of the site and aid in map location during the post-survey cataloging. For domestic sites, the supratypological vocabulary developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee will be used in the description process. Photographic field notes will also be kept concerning the aspect of the image, exposure number and corresponding roll number. In addition to the recording of the information listed above, further research will be conducted on those sites which are considered to have greater significance.

Intensive survey documentation will include: a) proportionally sketched site plans with building measurements, b) photographic recordation of the significant characteristics of the site, such as construction details, interior views and general site views. This will be accomplished using Panatomic-x black and white film (approx. 8 shots per

site) and Kodachrome 64 slide film (approx. 4 shots per site). It is anticipated that a tripod and flash attachment will be required in addition to the basic photographic equipment of reconnaissance survey.

Additional information relevant to the historic contexts will be from, but not limited to, the following sources: a) nativity data from census materials, b) chain of ownership information from deed research, c) oral histories, d) historic photos and newspapers, and e) biographies and county histories.

INTENSIVE SURVEY PROCESS

The following list is an explanation of the chronological process of intensive documentation employed by Save America's Heritage in the performance of historic building surveys. The pre-reconnaissance research mentioned earlier is not included in this summation.

1. Performance of reconnaissance survey with hierarchical site notations.
2. Evaluation meeting of reconnaissance data, select significant context sites.
3. Comparative evaluation of significant context sites, select intensive sites.
4. Perform courthouse research on intensive sites (deed, mortgage, lien).
5. Perform courthouse research to determine present owners.
6. Contact local historical associations for assistance on intensive site research.
7. Contact present owners, discuss NeHBS, arrange intensive appointment.
8. Follow-up letters confirming appointment and expressing thanks.
9. Perform pre-intensive research on significant sites.
10. Perform intensive survey of historic context #1.
11. Perform intensive survey of historic context #2.
12. Perform intensive survey of historic context #3.

An elaboration of the specific documentary tasks associated with each historic context is found in the following pages.

INTENSIVE SURVEY PROCESS

Despite similar mechanical recording techniques, the documentation of historic buildings associated with a variety of contextual themes can be very dissimilar. The conceptual approach of the surveyor must adapt to the nature of the building typology in order to record the data most relevant to the historic context. For example, retail commerce documentation will differ from livestock documentation in that a site plan, useful in recording farm building relationships, will not be as useful when recording a commercial infill structure. Based on this theory, an outline of the specific observations associated with each context has been developed and is listed below.

Intensive Livestock Production

- Farm arrangement
- Building functions
- Building relationships
- Historic size of farm
- Scale of buildings
- Contextual setting - micro
- Contextual setting - macro
- Material usage
- Construction methods
- Number and type of stock
- Integrity

Retail Commerce

- Building type
- Material use
- Construction detail
- Facade definition
 - Rhythm
 - Texture
 - Windows
- Scale
- Social role
- Interior space
- Building date

*For Danish-American Overlay, see Appendix 2.

Limitations

The appearance of some structures did create certain limitations, such as their lack of integrity and the advancement of new technologies. Altered materials and altered forms caused a lack of integrity in many obvious historical structures. A main concern was how much alteration could be permitted and still retain the historic architectural importance. Historic buildings are also becoming obsolete at the expense of new technologies. Numerous owners are turning to new aluminum barns and sheds for their farmsteads. Community and rural owners as well see advantages in building new structures instead of rehabilitating older historic ones.

Information available on builders, contractors and architects of specific sites were often scarce. Best results occurred with sites where ownership was kept in the family for an extended period or with a direct family member of the original owner. However, with so many farms changing in ownership, direct family members had to be researched and contacted to extract what available information they could recall and/or produce documentation of. In a related area, present owners were sometimes incorrect in deed records for the current calendar year because the deeds simply were not up-to-date. An alternative resource was the County Tax Assessor's Office where the recipients of tax statements for specified lots are easily located.

Biases

For the contexts and themes of Washington County, agriculture was considered highly significant in relation to the economy of the county; an economy based on agriculture and intensive livestock production (ILP). SAVE expected to find areas of major ILP and although examples were documented, the sites were larger than expected and fewer in number. Other obvious ILP sites have seen a shift from predominant livestock production to an emphasis on crops with livestock production becoming secondary. Agriculture has also seen a major economic upheaval in the last 6 years. This unrest has caused considerable stress in the county, which may help explain certain changes in farming practices.

With a 50% decrease in the number of farmsteads over the last 20 years (U.S. Census), the preservation of architecturally and historically significant farmsteads has suffered a major setback. Special care was taken to record all buildings 50 years or older as they are giving way to modern shapes and materials.

Commercial sites were selected by SAVE based on materials used and the quality and amount of architectural details. Consideration was also given to sites with any areas of significance identified in the context report. Additionally, judgement was made on the integrity of the site and the maintenance of its original appearance.

Selection of ILP sites were determined by several factors. Arrangement of the farmstead, building functions and the number of buildings (i.e., the size of the farmstead) were all examined. SAVE also looked at the farmhouse for architectural contributions to the farmstead including the amount of character and historic integrity still retained. If the above criteria were met, then the site was included for the reconnaissance-level survey. If integrity was maintained, the site was selected for intensive survey.

Sites with a Danish influence were determined by similar criteria. As elaborated on in the Danish Context Report, Danish romantic detail was one characteristic desired and carriage barns with romantic detail were also selected. Danish churches, social organizations and commercial-related ventures were other areas of interest including the courtyard arrangement of any rural sites. A reconnaissance-level survey was conducted for each site meeting the above qualities and an intensive survey was initiated on those still maintaining their integrity.

Throughout the survey, various building typologies were documented. To assist in the documentation, SAVE recorded general descriptions for each site and employed the Supratype strategy as developed by the Midwest Committee on Vernacular Architecture. The Supratype was used to eliminate discrepancies in the interpretation and achieve a more thorough description for each documented site.

Additional Limitations and Biases

Census Work

Three censuses were chosen--1880, 1900 and 1910. 1880 was chosen as a pre-Danish immigration year because Wayne Wheeler (1975) listed no Danes in the county in that year. This later proved to be incorrect. It would have been helpful to have the 1870 data.

In the interest of time, only persons over age 18 were listed. This method made it very difficult to determine if an immigrant from Denmark had lived for a period of time in another area of the United States. For example, if a young Danish couple immigrated to Wisconsin, lived there for 15 years, had three children there then moved to Nebraska, they would have been recorded as Danish-born just as a person coming directly to Nebraska from Denmark would have been. The children, if recorded as U.S.-born, would have provided information on the family having lived previously in Wisconsin. Whether the time in the U.S. would have affected building or farming practices is undetermined.

The states grouped into regions should be adjusted to meet research needs. The region described as North included NY, ME, NH, VT, CT, RI, MI, WI, and MN. For the Danes it would have been useful to be able to distinguish between "Yankees" and Minnesota-Wisconsin where large numbers of Danes settled. The addition of Canada as a country of origin should be considered in future work.

Contexts

Conclusions are drawn from materials listed in the bibliography of each context. Information from additional sources may shed new light on these contexts.

The context is meant to be that of a background, relevant to the survey. It is not intended to delineate the evolution of a particular building type.

Before moving into the summary of the reconnaissance survey data, an explanation of its objective is necessary. Our attempts to interpret and present our findings have focused on the three historic contexts and their respective resources. However, it was felt that a certain degree of interpretation and presentation of the reconnaissance data was necessary. We have made a conscientious effort to reference these resources according to two concepts. These concepts are: 1) building form (the supertype analysis of house shapes), and 2) building function (the primary use of all documented resources). The objective behind this exercise is the development of a consistent method of interpretation which, over the course of several surveys, will generate data used for comparative analysis. This comparative analysis can be applied in various ways including minimally: the identification of ethnic-associated house forms, the comparison of these house forms with those of other ethnic cultures, and the analysis of significant forms and functions to be considered in existing or future surveys.

In addition to the above-mentioned analyses, a major feature of this section is the preliminary inventory of all non-context related properties potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. These properties are listed according to a topical listing developed by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) and are further referenced by NeHBS site numbers. For a more complete description of the respective properties, please refer to the NeSHPO site files.

Numerical Summary of Washington County Resources

The initial topic for discussion in reference to the reconnaissance data focuses upon the numerical summary of the survey findings. These findings are presented in the table below and illustrate a few basic facts. These facts are: 1) a total of 538 individual sites were documented during the survey equaling 98% of the pre-survey estimate of 550; 2) located on these 538 sites were a total of 1,667 contributing buildings, structures and objects; and 3) the geographic area covered by the survey included 293.4 square miles of rural land and all of the 11 towns located in the county.

Washington County		Total Number of Sites	Total Contributing Buildings & Structures
WN00:	Rural	245	1,258
WN01:	Arlington	42	63
WN02:	Blair	132	160
WN04:	Fontanelle	11	30
WN05:	Fort Calhoun	26	39
WN06:	Herman	34	45
WN07:	Kennard	26	33
WN08:	Orum	4	7
WN09:	Spiker	2	2
WN10:	Telbasta	5	14
WN11:	Washington	<u>11</u>	<u>16</u>
TOTAL		538	1,667

TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES DOCUMENTED: 538

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND OBJECTS: 1,667

AREA OF SURVEY COVERAGE: 187,760 acres or 293.4 square miles

Supratype Referencing

It is no surprise that domestic architecture is the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance-level survey projects. The Washington County survey was no exception producing a documented total of 403 residential resources. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of residences in towns where the opportunity for occupancy is greater. The recording of residential structures in the Washington County survey included not only occupied resources, but abandoned as well. In addition, all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the two categories of referencing applied to this typology. These two categories are: 1) the core shape of the house, and 2) the locations of the core shapes. However, with the implementation of supratypological analysis in the recording of these historic resources (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee) the observance of the core shape becomes primary. Because of this, all residences recorded will be listed in Appendix A according to their respective forms. These are: rectangular (R), square (S), T-shaped (T), L-shaped (L), cross-shaped (X), and irregular (I). The remaining information pertaining to the location of these shapes is found within the referencing table in the following pages.

The use of supratype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The analysis itself consists of the recording of five basic descriptors, the first of which is the core shape. Following this are: the narrowest dimension of the core called unit width, then the height, roof shape and finally orientation in respect to the street. Despite the use of this five-part method in the recording process, the referencing of the reconnaissance data has focused solely on the core shape descriptor.

Before moving on, there are a few observations evident from the following table which should be discussed. The Washington County survey produced a total of 538 individually documented sites and of these 403 or 75% were houses or houses on farmsteads. Of the 403 recorded sites,

57% were rectangles, 17% squares, 10% T-shaped, and 7% L-shaped. The most common construction material was wood frame and the location of the resources is split evenly between rural areas (53%) and towns (47%). This even distribution illustrates the somewhat dense settlement of the rural outlying areas. In comparison, the Harlan and Franklin County historic buildings survey (Save America's Heritage, 1985) produced a combined total of 468 houses, only 65 more than Washington County by itself. Of the 468 houses found in the Harlan and Franklin County survey, only 15% were located in rural areas, far less than the 53% documented in the rural regions of Washington County.

Functional Referencing

The second attempt to reference reconnaissance data concerns the categorization of resources according to the concept of building function. In this case, building function means, quite simply, the primary use of the building during its period of historic importance. Why building function? The notion of analyzing historic buildings according to their functional use is somewhat of an established means of interpreting survey data. This process establishes a distinct set of functional building uses and allows us to then recognize unique building types when encountered in future surveys. For instance, based on current data, the existence of a farmstead in Nebraska is expected, but the discovery of an extant rural general store is not. Secondly, functional referencing establishes a set of ethnic-related functions which helps us anticipate building types in areas of known ethnic settlement.

During the course of the functional referencing, a few basic observations were made and should be discussed at this point. The most impressionable of these is the abundance of farmstead resources. The rural areas of Washington County were densely settled as evidenced by the fact that 40% of the sites documented were farmsteads. Reinforcing this is the observation that 53% of all houses documented in the county

were located on farms. A second significant conclusion is the fact that 75% of the sites were either town dwellings or farmsteads. Unfortunately, this high percentage is at the expense of other functions. For example, there was an obvious lack of uncompromised commercial buildings. Only 8% of the documented sites were commercial-related structures and of these, only 12% retained enough integrity to merit intensive survey. Inordinate degrees of historical alteration were observed in the central business districts of Blair and Herman. Also contributing to the high percentage of farms and town dwellings was the lack of rural churches. A distressing total of two churches were documented in the rural environs of the county. A partial explanation for this is the disuse and eventual razing of several rural church buildings.

A final observation concerning the building typologies of Washington County is the visible decay of the historic agricultural farm buildings. Due to changes in farming technology, these buildings no longer provide as prominent a role compared to their period of historic importance. Farm buildings such as milk/horse barns and corn cribs are no longer used and the expenses incurred for their repair are no longer economical. The result is the deterioration of a building typology which, based on the popularity of prefabricated metal construction, is a finite historical resource.

Functional Referencing

Building Function	Total	Percent of Total
Farmsteads	212	39.4%
Town dwellings	191	35.5%
Commercial buildings	43	8.0%
Cemeteries	16	3.0%
Schools	16	3.0%
Churches	14	2.6%
Governmental & public buildings	7	1.3%
Miscellaneous farm buildings	6	1.1%
Gas stations	5	0.9%
Commercial agriculture	4	0.75%
Existing NSHS dwellings	4	0.75%
Banks	3	0.55%
Lodging	3	0.55%
Miscellaneous town buildings	3	0.55%
Bridges	2	0.37%
Depots	2	0.37%
Industrial buildings	2	0.37%
Parks	2	0.37%
Service associations	2	0.37%
Housing	<u>1</u>	<u>0.18%</u>
TOTAL	538	100%

Summary of Residential Resources

TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES DOCUMENTED: 538

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES: 403.....75% of project total

Supratype Referencing

Legend of Core Shapes:

R:	Rectangle	L:	L-shaped
S:	Square	I:	Irregular-shaped
T:	T-shaped	X:	Cross-shaped

Summary of Core Shapes

	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Number	231	70	40	27	13	9	13
Percentage	57.3%	17.4%	10%	6.7%	3.2%	2.2%	3.2%

Location of Core Shapes

<u>Location</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Town	126	24	14	13	8	6	0
Rural	105	46	26	14	5	3	13

Percentage of Core Shape

<u>Shape</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Rural</u>
R	55%	45%
S	34%	66%
T	35%	65%
L	52%	48%
I	62%	38%
X	67%	33%

Preliminary Inventory of Potential NRHP Sites in Washington County

TOPICAL LISTING OF WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORIC SITES POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The topical listing that follows is an enumeration of all historic sites documented during the reconnaissance survey of Washington County which appear potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This list was derived from both pre- and post-intensive evaluations of the non-context related sites documented during the reconnaissance survey. The two areas of significance most commonly found among these sites were integrity and architecture. The list does not contain an inventory of those sites associated with the three historic contexts identified prior to the survey. For a listing of these context-related sites, please refer to the Preliminary Inventory sections found within their respective historic context.

Legend:

WNOO-19: NeHBS site number for potentially eligible non-context sites

WNO4-1: NeHBS site number for sites listed in the NRHP

RELIGION

Denominations/Sects/Faiths/Cults:

Roman Catholic:

WNO5-19 St. John Roman Catholic Church (1883), Fort Calhoun

Lutheran Church:

WNOO-164 St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1890), German

WNO4-4 Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fontanelle, German

Methodist Episcopal:

WNO1-13 First Methodist Episcopal Church, Arlington

Presbyterian:

WN05-18 Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church (ca. 1900)

Congregationalist:

WN02-2 Blair Congregational Church (1873), Blair, NRHP

ASSOCIATION

Service:

WN02-17 I.O.O.F. Hall (1892), Blair

WN01-20 Masonic Building (1886), Arlington

EDUCATION

Schooling:

Elementary:

WN00-47 Wranch School, Dist. #25

High/Secondary/Academy:

WN02-118 Old Central School, Blair, J. Latenser Arch.

College:

WN02-5 Old Main, Dana College, Blair

WN02-129 Pioneer Memorial Hall, Dana College, Blair

Enrichment:

Museums:

WN05-1 Historical Association and Museum, Fort Calhoun

WN00-102 Niels Miller Cabin Museum (1857)

HEALTH CARE

Mental:

Drug:

WN02-31 Keeley Institute, alcohol abuse (ca. 1920's), Blair

SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

Town Dwellings:

- WN01-6 Vernacular frame house (ca. 1900), Arlington
- WN01-11 Bungalow-style brick house, Arlington
- WN01-1 Marshall-Winset-Fine house (Queen Anne), Arlington
- WN01-22 Vernacular frame house (ca. 1900), Arlington
- WN01-34 Vernacular brick house with classical detailing, Arlington
- WN02-3** C. C. Crowell Jr. house (1901), Blair
- WN02-24 Queen Anne frame house, Blair
- WN02-45 Vernacular brick house, Blair
- WN02-55 Mansard-roof brick house (ca. 1885), Blair
- WN02-74 Vernacular frame house, Blair
- WN02-76 Arndt house, mansard-roof brick house (ca. 1885), Blair
- WN02-69 Bungalow-style stucco house, Blair
- WN02-77 Mansard-roof frame house (ca. 1885), Blair
- WN02-61 Mansard-roof frame house, Blair
- WN02-87 Simplified Queen Anne frame house, Blair
- WN02-88 Mansard-roof brick house (ca. 1885), Blair
- WN02-94 Large frame house with classical detailing (ca. 1900), Blair
- WN02-97 Queen Anne-style frame house, Blair
- WN02-100 Simplified Queen Anne frame house, Blair
- WN02-102 Bungalow-style stucco house, Blair
- WN02-115 Vernacular frame house with classical portico, Blair
- WN02-119 Queen Anne frame house, Blair
- WN02-121 Frame house with classical detailing, Blair
- WN02-122 Queen Anne frame house, Blair
- WN04-3 Frame vernacular house (ca. 1900), Fontanelle
- WN04-10 Henry Sprick brick house (ca. 1890), Fontanelle, German
- WN05-10 Simplified Queen Anne frame house, Fort Calhoun
- WN05-14 Large frame vernacular house, Fort Calhoun

Rural Dwellings:

- WN00-6 Vernacular frame house (ca. 1895), Cuming City Township
- WN00-27 J. E. Markel summer home, Queen Anne, DeSoto Township

WN00-66 Watson Tyson log house (ca. 1870), Cuming City Township
 WN00-127 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Lincoln Township
 WN00-150 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Lincoln Township
 WN00-153 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Lincoln Township
 WN00-166 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Lincoln Township
 WN00-168 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Fontanelle Township
 WN00-172 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Fontanelle Township
 WN00-179 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Fontanelle Township
 WN00-181 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1895), German, Fontanelle Township
 WN00-245 Brick farmhouse (ca. 1890), German, Arlington Township
 WN00-129 Fred Scheer farmstead (1904), German, Lincoln Township
 WN00-187 Vernacular frame farmhouse, Fontanelle Township

Town Outbuildings:

WN11-1 Saltbox-shape carriage barn, Washington
 WN07-16 Saltbox-shape carriage barn, Kennard

Rural Outbuildings:

WN00-67 Saltbox-shape carriage barn, Fort Calhoun Township

POLITICAL SYSTEM

County:

Courthouse:

WN02-1 Washington County Courthouse, Blair

Township Halls:

WN04-1 Fontanelle Township Hall, Fontanelle

Fairgrounds:

WN01-29 Washington County Fairgrounds, Arlington

City:

WN02-23 Blair City Building (1912)

COMMERCE (for Retail Commerce, see Historic Context, Appendix 3)

Banking:

- WN02-20 Originally 1881 bank, now Huber Building, Blair
WN05-3 Two-story brick corner bank, Fort Calhoun
WN07-8 One-story brick bank, classical corner portico, Kennard

Lodging:

- WN00-89 Halfway House, remaining portion (1857), Cuming City Township

COMMUNICATION

Telephone:

- WN02-26 Blair Telephone Company

Postal:

- WN02-22 Blair Post Office, now Community School Administration

AGRICULTURE (for Northeast Nebraska Livestock Production, see Historic Context, Appendix 1)

General Farming:

Farmstead complexes:

- WN00-22 Farmstead and elevator
WN00-49 Farmstead
WN00-71 Farmstead and diagonally-slatted corn crib

Individual Farm-Related Structures:

- WN00-55 Gambrel-roof barn
WN00-107 Elliptically-shaped, 6-sided, diagonally-slatted corn crib
WN00-111 Eight-sided, diagonally-slatted corn crib
WN00-122 Diagonally-slatted corn crib
WN00-154 Eight-sided, diagonally-slatted corn crib
WN00-231 Eight-sided, diagonally-slatted corn crib
WN00-239 Eight-sided, diagonally-slatted corn crib

PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Crop and Grain Milling:

Cereal Flour:

WN02-41 Three-story brick flour mill, Blair

TRANSPORTATION

Corridors:

Rail:

WN00-84 Sioux City & Pacific Railroad truss bridge, Missouri
River

WN02-6 Sioux City & Pacific Railroad depot, Blair

WN02-7 C&NW depot and freight room, Blair

Road:

WN00-83 Nebraska Highway 30 Missouri River truss bridge

Priorities For Future Work & Research Questions

Supplemental Themes: Priorities for Future Work and Research Questions

Priorities for future work recommended by Save America's Heritage are listed thematically. These supplemental themes are ranked in order of priority with the first being highest priority.

Themes were derived from pre-survey research, reconnaissance- and intensive-level surveys. The scope of the themes varies. They range from a limited number of properties within a single town to suggestions for multi-county work.

Research questions associated with each theme are posed within the thematic summary.

Proposed Priorities for Future Work

1. German brick farmhouses
2. Mansards of Blair
3. Crossroads stores
4. Dairying and associated agricultural industry
5. Public buildings of Blair

Brick Farmhouses Built by Germans/German Ethnic Influences

As a result of the reconnaissance survey, a cluster of large brick farmhouses was identified in the southwestern quarter of Washington County. The concentration of these brick farmhouses is much greater than in any other area of the county. The Frederick Scheer farmstead (WNOO-129) was selected for intensive research within the Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Context. As the result of the research, it was determined the original owners were German. According to local histories, there are two other examples of these farmhouses--the Henry Hilgenkamp farmstead (WNOO-150) and the Walter Hilgenkamp farmstead (WNOO-168)--built by Germans. These large brick farmhouses are located in Arlington, Fontanelle and Lincoln Townships.

A thematic study of these large brick farmhouses is recommended to discover relationships, if any, between the buildings. Research on each house should include: original and subsequent significant owners;

builder or architect; date of construction; floor plan; original interior details; original exterior details; and later alterations. The floor plans would be especially helpful in determining possible ethnic influences.

Research regarding possible ethnic influences in these houses should be undertaken since the precincts in which these houses are located had large German-born populations. Prior to the reconnaissance phase of the survey, census work was undertaken in connection with the Danish-American emphasis. Nativity for persons age 18 and over was recorded for the years 1880, 1900 and 1910. German-born persons were the largest group of foreign-born persons in the county; this is also true of Nebraska in general.

Fontanelle is one of the precincts in which the large brick farmhouses are located. In 1880, 53% of the population in the precinct was German-born. Of the German-born in the precinct, 62% were East Prussians. In the village of Fontanelle (32% German), half (52%) were from Prussia.

Lincoln and Arlington are the other two precincts in which the large brick farmhouses are located. These also had sizeable German-born populations. Lincoln Precinct's population was 23% German-born in 1880 with 60% of the German-born being from Prussia. Arlington (Bell Creek) Precinct's population was 20% German-born in 1880 and of the German-born, 67% were from Prussia.

Figures from 1880 were used since the 1880 census does not use "Germany" as do the 1900 and 1910 censuses, but lists nativity by German states and principalities. The percentage of German-born persons in these precincts declines over time and is matched by an increase in the Nebraska-born persons age 18 and over. This suggests the amount of immigration did not maintain pre-1880 levels and that Nebraska-born children of German-born parents were reaching adulthood by 1900 and 1910.

A thematic study would provide background information for a thematic nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Questions to be answered include: Were other houses in this cluster owned or built by Germans? Do the floor plans reveal ethnic influences? Are floor plans similar? Do they suggest one builder? Were these houses constructed within a narrow period of time? Are there stylistic similarities? Many other questions will emerge as the result of the research.

Recommendation for Future Work

These houses are of interest architecturally. The possibility of ethnic influences in these houses should be explored in light of the census data in these precincts.

Danish Influences and/or City of Blair Architecture

The single most exciting and architecturally significant result of the survey of the city of Blair was the number of extant mansard-roofed houses. There are more mansard-roofed houses in Blair than in any other county or city surveyed in Nebraska to date through the Nebraska Historic Building Survey.

There are one or two examples in several of the older towns of the state (Omaha, Lincoln, Crete, Red Cloud, Seward, Friend, Brainard, Lyons, Oakland, David City, Weeping Water, and rural Butler County).¹ Most of these examples are vernacular houses using mansard roofs on smaller one-story houses with decorative details varying from minimal to moderate. Examples of full-blown, highly decorative French Second Empire style houses are relatively rare. The four known examples are listed in or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places: John Cattle, Jr. house, Seward; Joel N. Cornish house, Omaha; Lewis-Syford house, Lincoln; and Richard R. Kiddle house, Friend.² The Blair houses are generally of the vernacular form and not high-style examples of the French Second Empire style.

The reasons for the number of mansard-roofed houses in Blair is

beyond the scope of this survey. It is, however, a question that bears further investigation. The Danish Overlay report did not predict that mansard roofs would be found in the county. The bibliography for the Danish Overlay report did not report references which discussed mansard roofs in connection with Danish influence. The report did charge the survey with looking for certain "romantic" details. The mansard roof is not a classical form, and it, in association with shingles and decorative details, gives a picturesque effect. Old Main, Dana College, a Danish-American institution, has a mansard roof. Some of the houses have Danish owners (J. Peter Jensen), but some do not (F. M. Castetter). There is the possibility that the use of the mansard is related to Danish influence.

A thematic study of the mansard-roofed houses of Blair is recommended for future study to discover a common thread, if any, between the buildings. Intensive research should include for each house: original and significant subsequent owners, builder, architect (if any), date of construction, floor plan, original interior details, especially wall or ceiling paintings, original exterior details, and later alterations. The study would also provide the background research for a thematic nomination to the National Register. Questions to be answered include: Are there more mansard houses, extant and demolished, in Ward 4, the city ward with the highest historic percentage of Danish-born residents? Are most owners Danish? Are the builders Danish? Who was the builder and architect of Old Main? Did the builder of Old Main erect any of these houses? Are the dates of construction in a narrow time period? Do other Danish communities have mansard-roofed houses in this time period? How does this time period relate to the period of popularity for the French Second Empire style? Other questions will probably be expressed prior to and during the research.

Blair's mansard-roofed houses are architecturally significant to the state for the number grouped in one community. Therefore, they should be studied and their National Register potential assessed as a group. A thematic study would illuminate this unusual occurrence in the

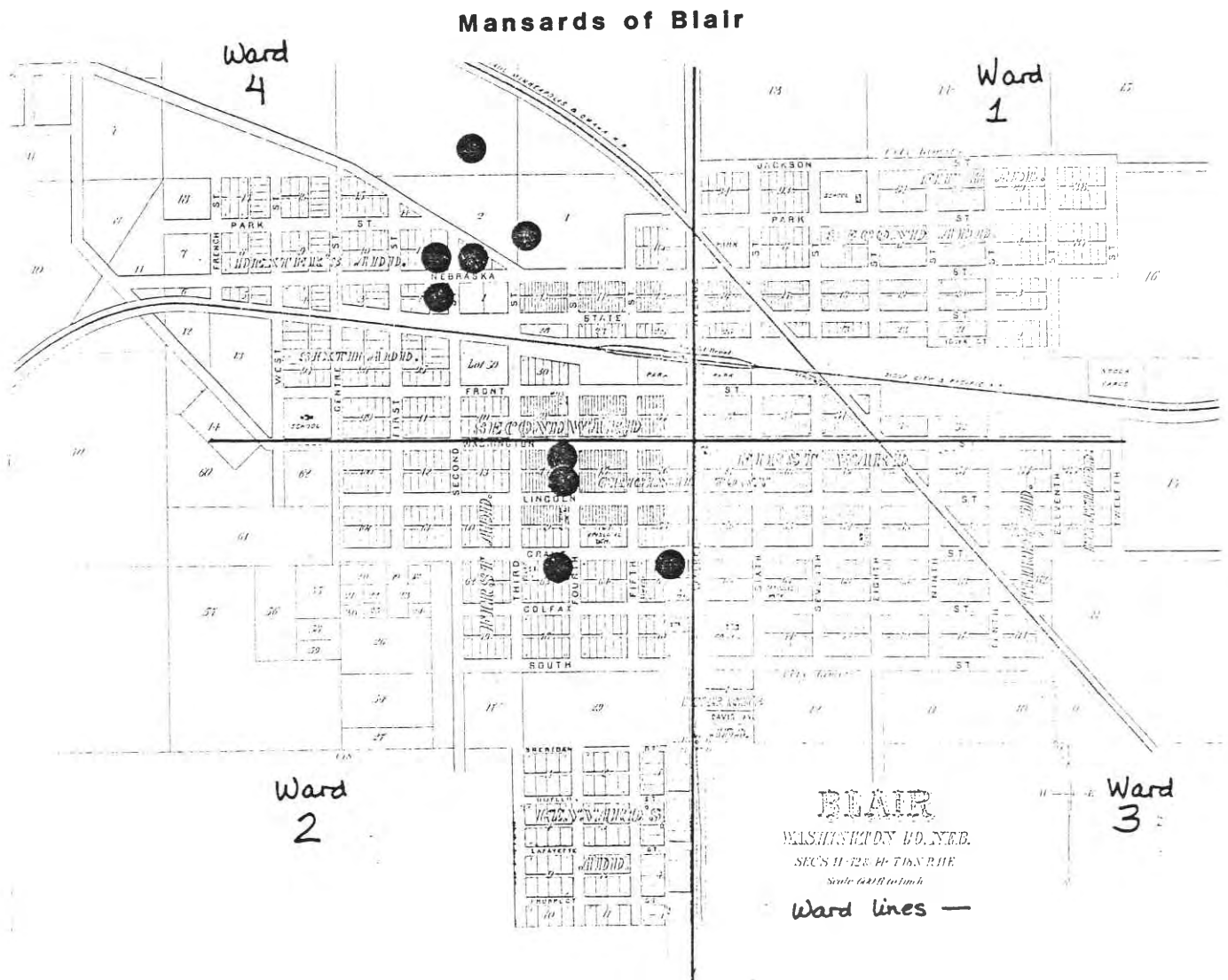
state and develop their National Register potential. The study could also explore the potential of any Danish influence in these Blair houses.

¹Mansard house file, Joni Gilkerson, NSHS; and NeHBS.

²Jenifer Sheary, NRHP Form: Kiddle House, 1985.

Recommendations for Future Work

Thematic study of the mansard-roofed houses of Blair for significance under Architecture and Ethnic Overlay: Danish.



Crossroads Stores

The false-front crossroads stores at Orum (WN08-1) and Telbasta (WN10-1) are remnants of a type of retailing from the past. Others are located at Sparta and Nysted. Surely there are others in the state. A thematic study of this type of retailing should be considered. Research questions include: Were they all built within a certain time? Are they all false fronts? Are there differences in plan? Use? Were residences attached? What were locational patterns associated with these stores?

Dairying

Dairying is and has been an important component of the agriculture in Washington County. Interest in dairying began in the 1880's. Dairying as an industry expanded in the early 20th century. The Nebraska Creamery Association was established in Fremont in 1885. Throughout the state, cream was separated and sold on a butterfat basis, some to local creameries, but more commonly assembled locally and shipped to centralized creameries where it was manufactured into butter. The use of silage was an innovation which cut the cost of butter by 20% and therefore, a large number of silos were built in the teens. In the 1920's the expansion of dairying was in part due to stable prices for dairy products compared to other farm prices. In 1928, Washington County ranked highest in the state along with Douglas and Lancaster Counties in the number of dairy cattle per section. Typically, dairies were located near larger cities where there was a market for milk as well as processed dairy products such as butter and cheese. Statewide, there has been a constant decrease in the numbers of dairy cattle since 1950; although production per cow has increased significantly so that total milk production has decreased at a fairly slow rate. The decrease in the number of dairy cows was accompanied by a significant reduction in the number of small herds (less than 10 cows). This reduction of small herds was probably due to the large capital investments required

to meet Grade A and environmental regulations. By 1979, Washington County ranked 16th in the state in number of milk cows by county.

A number of dairy farms were surveyed in Washington County. One site, the John Hansen farmstead (WNOO-229), had a cheese factory associated with it. The Lincoln Cheese Company, also known as the Blair Cheese Company, was founded by cheesemakers from Wisconsin who persuaded local Danes to invest in the factory. The factory operated for 10 years, from 1885 to 1895.

A number of research questions are associated with this context. What ethnic groups, if any, were associated with dairying? How are institutional changes in dairying reflected on dairy farms? Are the clay tile silos an "endangered building type"?

Since Washington County is one of the counties surrounding the city of Omaha, a multi-county theme including the city of Omaha where dairy products were sold should be considered.

Public Buildings in Blair

The Blair Community School Building, the old Post Office (WNO2-22), a fine neo-classical building, and the City Building (WNO2-23) across the street retain a high degree of architectural integrity. They are among the finest public buildings in the county. The old Telephone Building (WNO2-26) is a semi-public building that should also be considered for inclusion. The original portion of the old Blair High School was designed by John Latensen and could be included in with the public buildings or in connection with a study of Latensen's work.

Appendices

**Appendix 1: Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock
Production in Washington County**

Appendix 2: Danish-American Culture in Washington County

Appendix 3: Retail Commerce in Washington County

Appendix 4: Topical Listing of Historic Sites

Appendix 5: Washington County Nativity Research

Appendix 6: Functional Listing of Historic Buildings

1. Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Context

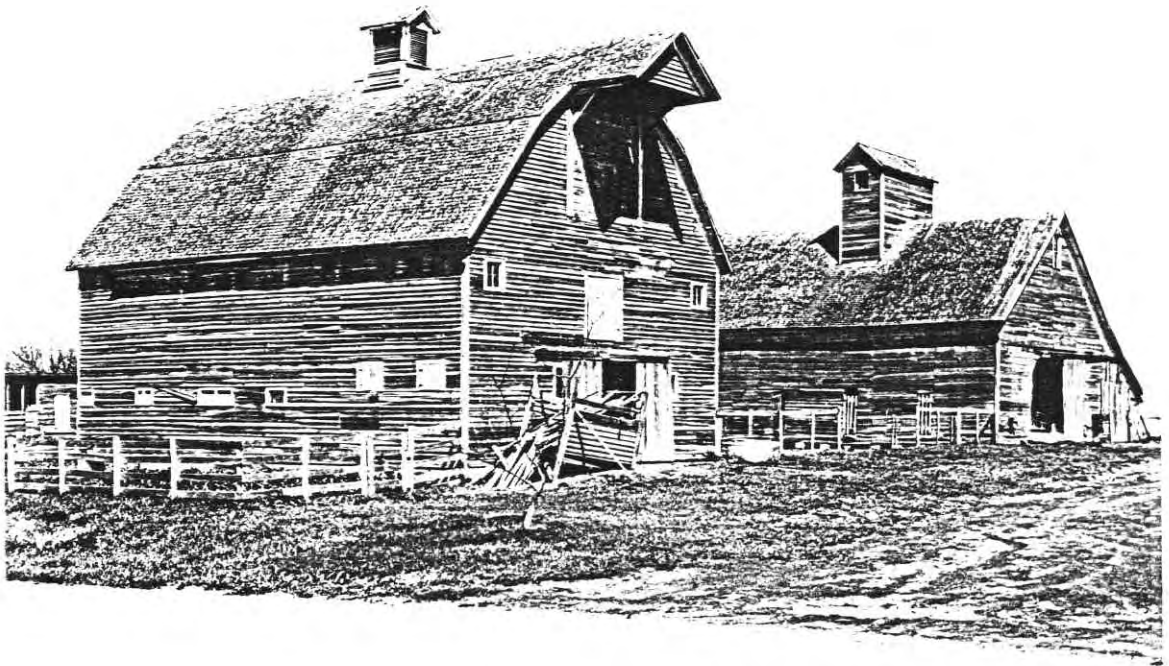
A. Research Design

B. Historic Context Report

C. Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

D. Bibliography

**NORTHEAST NEBRASKA
INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION
IN WASHINGTON COUNTY**



Research Design

APPENDIX A

Historic Context: Northeastern Intensive Livestock Production

1. Event: Establishment and changes through time of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production farming systems.

We expect to find farmsteads throughout the county which depict intensive livestock production. This farming system requires a diversity of buildings and skills. Crops such as corn, oats, and alfalfa are grown, not for cash sales, but for animal feed for cattle, calves, hogs or pigs which are sold for cash income. Farmsteads which have retained their pre-mechanization farm buildings will have a variety of structures important to record for the reconnaissance-level survey. The variety of structures is similar to those found in the Southeast Nebraska General Farming Context (see Kehlbeck farmstead, Cass Co., NE, NRHP nomination). The type of structures reflective of intensive livestock production are barns, cattle barns, cattle loafing sheds, hog barns, hog loafing sheds, farrowing beds, granaries, corn cribs, hog fences and cattle fences. These types are all found in southeastern Nebraska general farming--the difference is one of scale. The intensive livestock area will have more cattle, calves, hogs and pigs, needing larger barns and loafing sheds. Little, if any, of the crops are sold, necessitating larger granaries and larger corn cribs. Important as these structures are, we are interested in them, not separately, but as part of the entire farmstead. Other important structures to record for our full understanding of an intact farmstead include the house, wash house, cellar, cob house, summer kitchen, chicken house, brooder house, machine shop, implement shed, orchard, vegetable garden, stock tank system, windmill, windbreaks and pump systems. In general, these structures need to be more than 50 years old to be contributing features. (Source: Hedge & Elliott, L. F. Garey, Kehlbeck nomination, SE General Farming Context, D. Murphy conversations.)

2. Event: Establishment and changes through time of agricultural industry associated with intensive livestock production.

The intensive livestock production area will have agricultural industry in association, exclusive of the farmstead, for example elevators, farmer cooperatives, seed farms, etc. These types will be carefully recorded in this survey. Floyd Rodine (1949) does not list any farmer cooperatives in his master's thesis on the subject in Nebraska. We are interested in checking his thesis to the extent of seeing if we find any crops in the county.

3. Important personages for survey:

Mr. Steavenson of Fontanelle Hybrids, established 1936, near Fontanelle.

4. Priority: High.

Of all the contexts and themes for the survey of Washington County, this agriculture-related context is the most significant. The economic underpinning of the county is based on agriculture and on the intensive livestock production mode dominant in this intra-county area. In addition, agriculture in the last 20 years and perhaps even more so in the last 5 years, has undergone considerable stress, much more than other phases of county life. The number of farms has decreased by half in the last 20 years (Source: U.S. Census). The long-term preservation of farmsteads and farm outbuildings in representative numbers and in individual types and examples has probably already been severely compromised with a forecast of more of the same, probably at an accelerating rate. Therefore, it is important on this reconnaissance-level survey to record nearly all farm outbuildings and agriculture industry-related structures more than 50 years old for the simple reason that they may not be there much longer. Future intensive-level survey will be focused on intact farmsteads and examples related to the above listed research criteria.

NORTHEASTERN NEBRASKA INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CONTEXT

This system of farming is one of a number of types of farming identified by scientists at the University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (formerly the College of Agriculture) over many years to categorize and identify the various forms agriculture has taken in the state. Nebraska is a large state with a variety of physical resources. Farmers have had to adapt to the many cropping and livestock systems and farming methods available to their resources for the most profitable operation.

The first scientific discussions of Nebraska's systems-of-farming areas were in the 1930's in several bulletins of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Garey, 1936; Garey, 1937; Hedges and Elliott, 1930), a dissertation by Sweedlum (1940), and a book by Bradford and Spidel (1931). Their conclusions, as regarding the spatial distribution of the Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production area (NNILP) have held true to the present day (Williams and Murfield, 1977). The area is the entire northeastern corner of the state--north of the Platte River and west of the Missouri for 50 to 150 miles. The importance of cattle and hog raising to this area has been known for a long time, for John O'Neill in his promotional book of 1875 (whose purpose was to encourage immigration to northeast Nebraska) described hog raising as very profitable, particularly in Washington County.

The NNILP area is identified by common factors in physical, biological, and economic resources. The soil is a loess hills region, 70% of which is high grade; poorer areas and the rough land along the bluffs of the Missouri River are permanent pasture. The topography is gently rolling hills with the exception of the river bluffs. Precipitation for most of the area (particularly along the Missouri River) is 30 inches per year--the highest in the state--excluding the small southeast corner which receives 32 inches. Soils and precipitation are the major determinants for types of farming (Williams and Murfield, 1977, p. 28), and northeastern Nebraska is similar to the Corn Belt which it has imitated. The cropping system consists of corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and

some wheat and oats, which are chosen for their adaptability to this environment and for their appropriateness for livestock feeding. In this farming system a high proportion of feed grains are fed locally and not sold as cash grains. Cattle feeding and hog production are the main livestock enterprises. In 1930, two-thirds of the farm income in the NNILP area was derived from hogs and cattle (Garey, 1936, p. 26). The percentage of farm receipts from livestock and livestock products in 1969 was 70%, 80%, or 90% for the various counties in the NNILP area (Williams and Murfield, 1977, p. 33). The cattle are usually purchased as calves, often from the Nebraska Sandhills, and sold after feeding. Hogs and pigs are locally produced and fed. There are many counties in this area, and there will be variations in local physical and climatic conditions which result in various local situations, for instance irrigation and feedlots. Certain counties on the western edge of the region, such as Antelope County, have a high degree of irrigation, while Washington County has the least amount in the state (2% of crops irrigated). Feedlots are more prominent in some counties; Cuming County has the most feedlots and, appropriately, produces the largest tonnage of ensilage.

This farming system has in general produced a fairly prosperous and steady agriculture economy when compared to other parts of the state. For example, the statistics for Washington County in 1967-69 on average show a net income per farm in the second highest category (\$10,000-\$12,000). In average value of land and buildings per acre, the NNILP area had four of the six counties in the highest category (over \$400). Washington County was in the third category (\$100,000-\$125,000) for average value of land and buildings per farm. One factor that has remained fairly constant over the years is the average farm size. Washington County's average farm in 1900, 1935, and 1969 was 320 acres. Eastern Nebraska farms have remained nearly the same size while the trend in the rest of the state was toward larger farms (Williams and Murfield, 1977, p. 31). Production per farm increased however; between 1964 and 1982 the number of farms with cattle-feeding and hog and pig productions in Washington County declined by half, but approximately the

same number of livestock was sold (1964 and 1982 U.S. Census of Agriculture). Farmers considerably increased the number of livestock per farm. In petroleum expense and the market value of machinery on farms, Washington County and much of eastern Nebraska was in the highest category.

Nebraska is a major pork producer, ranking sixth in the country with 5.5% of national production. There is a definite concentration of the state's hog production in northeast Nebraska, although there has been some increase in recent years in corn-producing areas and in newly-irrigated areas. The number of pig farms in the state declined in the 1970's from 50,000 to less than 30,000. This doubled the size of each farm, averaging 200 pigs per farm and encouraged an increase in large enterprises (Williams and Murfield, 1977, p. 84).

Cattle feeding is more dispersed through the state with the Platte River Valley and northeastern Nebraska having greatest concentrations. The largest feedlot numbers are in the Platte Valley, Cuming County, Sarpy County, and western Douglas County. So there is some variability within the NNILP area.

The Development of the Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area

Initial Settlement, 1854-1880

Nebraska was opened for settlement in 1854, and the first settlements were along the Missouri River, beginning in the southeastern corner of the state. Early settlers arrived via river transport from the states of Missouri and Iowa. The first counties organized were eight in the southeast; Washington County is the only one in the NNILP area (see Historic Overview for more information). The Homestead Act of 1862 encouraged more farmers to settle in the state by providing 160 acres free to farmers who settled on and improved the land for five years. The Timber Culture Act of 1873 also provided free land of up to 160 acres, if one-quarter of it was planted to timber, in an attempt to get more trees in Nebraska and the Great Plains.

The coming of the railroad to northeastern Nebraska and the subsequent promotion to sell railroad lands did much to bring farmers and new settlers from this country and Great Britain and northern Europe to the state. The Sioux City and Pacific Railroad from the Missouri River at Blair to Fremont was the first railroad in the NNILP area in 1868. The Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad (later part of the Chicago and Northwestern system) was the major railway for the area, with construction beginning at Fremont in 1870 and then following the Elkhorn River northwest.

By 1880 all of Nebraska's major ethnic groups were represented in the northeast (German, Swedish, Czech, Danish, and English) although immigration continued through the 19th century. The largest group of settlers were those born in the United States; U.S.-born settlers arrived from the Midwest, the Northeast, and the Upland South (listed in order of largest numbers first) and could vary from second generation persons (for example, Germans) to those whose families had resided in the U.S. for many generations (for example, English). Ethnic diversity varies considerably by county and precinct. For an understanding of the nativity of Washington County residents in 1880, 1900, and 1910, see the narrative and appendix to the Historic Overview.

How did these early settlers react to farming the new land? Gilbert C. Fite describes it well in his book, The Farmer's Frontier, 1865-1900 (1966, p. 246). Although he is describing the Great Plains which this area borders, it would apply just as well to this area at a slightly earlier time and to the east.

Knowing little about the nature of the Great Plains, farmers who settled large parts of the region in the 1880's followed about the same agricultural practices as they had been accustomed to in the Midwest . . . corn was the usual first crop on the central plains of Kansas and Nebraska.

The climatic and physical conditions of northeastern Nebraska are more like those of the Corn Belt than any other part of Nebraska. Less

modification was needed to adapt the corn-hog system of farming to northeastern Nebraska than was needed for agriculture in other parts of the state. This is partially borne out by John O'Neill's book written in 1875 which promoted immigration to northeastern Nebraska, which describes the corn-hog system of farming as already in place, at least in Washington County: "'Corn is king,' and as a natural result, Washington County takes in lead in Northern Nebraska as a hog-raising country." Also, "corn . . . is king and hogs . . . are the great sources of wealth to the county" (O'Neill, 1875, pp. 28-29).

The principal crops in this period in the northeast were corn, wheat, barley, oats, buckwheat, and potatoes, although corn was the principal crop (Sweedlum, 1940, p. 87; O'Neill, 1875, pp. 28-29). In fact Sweedlum describes this period (1870-1900) as a "one-crop era of farming" with corn at the center. By 1880 Nebraska was one of the top 10 corn-producing states, ranking eighth.

In spite of John O'Neill's high praises for the corn-hog system, the marketing of livestock for any distance was difficult and costly. In the territorial era (1854-67), no railroads existed in this portion of the state. Nebraska was far from markets, and transportation charges were high for animals on the hoof. Livestock was mainly used for home meat and the feeding of surplus grain (Sweedlum, 1940, p. 140). After the railroads were built in the 1870's, transportation was easier, but there were no stockyards or packing plants in the state. The animals had to be shipped on hoof to Chicago or other markets, a considerable distance.

With our interest in the nativity of the farmers in the northeast (see Historic Overview and Danish Overlay) the question is raised, Do foreign-immigrant farmers practice agriculture differently than their American counterparts? Bradley Baltensperger studied three immigrant groups of farmers in one Nebraska county in the 19th century. He concluded that their "agricultural operations reflected a blend of adopted and retained traits." "In many instances they rapidly adopted American cropping and livestock practices. The most dramatic example was the almost immediate acceptance of corn as the stable crop by all

three immigrant groups." The emphasis on corn was originally brought by Midwesterners of the Corn Belt to Nebraska. The immigrants in Baltensperger's study retained habits from the old country in small grains, crop diversity, and scale of operations (Baltensperger, 1980, pp. 186-188).

In summary, the first settlement of the land occurred in the 1854-1880 period. The federal government opened Nebraska for settlement in 1854 and subsequent government policies encouraged settlement, namely the Homestead Act of 1862 and the Timber Culture Act of 1873. All ethnic major groups were represented in the area by 1880, although their numbers would continue to increase. The largest group of American-born settlers in Washington County were Midwesterners, followed by those from the Northeast (further study is needed for the rest of the area). Corn was the principal crop of 19th century farmers in Nebraska and on the Great Plains. Northeastern Nebraska was one area of the state well suited to corn, so the basic crop of the intensive livestock production system of farming had a positive initiation. The marketing of livestock was in its infancy; the coming of the railroads brought the potential for a good marketing industry, but the high cost of transporting animals on hoof was a deterrent.

Period of Growth and Initiation of Scientific Farming, 1880-1930

This period is the heart of the development of Nebraska's agriculture, the beginnings of the highly productive methods and systems of farming that we see today. Therefore, the intensive livestock production area had its real start in the late 19th century from the more tentative starts earlier and matured a little in the early 20th century as cropping systems, livestock systems, marketing, scientific discoveries were better understood by the farmer, the agricultural scientist, and county extension agent. This is also the latest period which meets the 50-year criterion for the National Register of historic places, so it is a significant time in Nebraska's agricultural development and the buildings, structures, and objects associated with that development, which needs much study and understanding.

In the 50 years covered by this time frame, there are several periods of prosperity and depression; each has had positive and negative elements for agriculture. The 1880's were the state's boom years: immigration was high, crops were good, Eastern capitalists were investing in the state, perhaps the greatest building boom in Nebraska's history was undertaken. Farmers were nearly self-sufficient and the cost of production was low. A nationwide panic was followed by a long drought, as all segments of the economy suffered. Many people left the state to look for better times elsewhere. Sweedlum (1940, p. 70) suggests that the lack of growth forced people to look for a more "stable development with a greater ultimate agricultural prosperity."

In the mid-1890's supporters of a more knowledgeable basis for agriculture--both scientists and laymen--recommended that farmers consider the new discoveries and techniques from the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture--discoveries that we made under local conditions to assist the farmers of the state. Some of these recommendations took years to be accepted, and not all were useful. But the concept of scientific farming was first actively promoted at this time with the result that American agriculture is that standard by which the world is judged in production, efficiency, and knowledge.

Robert Furnas, a former governor and horticulturist, was perhaps the most prominent lay supporter of a more scientific approach. Charles Bessey, state botanist. A. E. Davission, professor in agriculture, and many others made recommendation for improved techniques (Sweedlum, 1940, pp. 74-77).

The techniques promoted from the late 1890's and, as they became known, for the next 15 to 20 years or so were crop rotation, improved soil tillage, adaptation of crops to environment, seed selection, higher quality livestock through selection and breeding, scientific feeding of livestock, and the study of plant and animal diseases. All of these ideas improved the quality of farming in general, and, also, the intensive livestock production, and each are important. However, two new discoveries were particularly vital to the intensive livestock production: use of alfalfa in rotation with corn and the discovery of a

serum to prevent hog cholera in 1913. The University of Nebraska Experiment Station had a bulletin in 1894 promoting alfalfa as a new crop. It was a highly nutritious forage crop and an important rotation crop with corn for building up the soil. Sweedlum said it well,

The acceptance of alfalfa in a general way made it possible for farmers . . . to readjust their crop system in order to maintain soil fertility and engage in livestock production on a larger scale (Sweedlum, 1940, p. 207).

Hog cholera was a major cause of death among hogs. The serum to prevent it resulted in an increase of hog production.

The farmers of northeastern Nebraska nearly ceased to grow corn during the drought years of the early 1890's, and instead grew wheat. With the return of more usual weather, the northeast went back to a corn-livestock system. The livestock system recovered quickly in the first decade of the new century. Changes to the livestock industry in the last 20 years of the 19th century were also influential. Purebred cattle, particularly Shorthorns, Hereford, Angus, and Galloways, were grown on eastern Nebraska farms and helped improve the quality of herds. Eastern Nebraska became a cattle-feeding area, not cattle-producing. Calves were purchased from the ranges of the Sandhills or further west and fed in eastern Nebraska. As a result of the intensive research phase of the survey, it was learned that many of the farmers were cattle producers as well as cattle feeders, at least in the early years of the period. According to oral interviews, the Germans in the western part of the county sold their surplus cattle to nearby farmers. These were then fattened and sent to market.

The market and processing plants moved closer as Omaha and Sioux City established markets. Omaha's stockyards were organized in 1883 and, by the end of the decade, there were six packing plants nearby. The development of refrigerated railroad cars in 1868 made this possible because slaughtered meat could be transported safely long distances. Packing plants could be located further west, nearer the source of

supply, and the cost of transportation for slaughtered meat would be considerably less than for the live animal.

From 1900 to 1914 there was prosperity in Nebraska. In the livestock system, cattle feeding was highly concentrated in the northeast. The use of alfalfa was gaining acceptance as a recommended cattle feed with corn. The labor-intensive nature of corn made another crop a necessity and alfalfa's growing season matched well with that of corn, as well as its major benefits as a cattle feed and soil improver. Oats were good for young cattle at the beginning of fattening; this was another which worked well in the NNILP system. Hogs were also fed corn, alfalfa, and milk or tankage to grow well. This period had no drought or major pests, and that plus decent prices and the first effects of scientific farming created experiments and readjustments in farming, with a favorable benefit.

World War I was a period of inflation although a high demand for food products. This was followed by a depression in agriculture throughout the 1920's. There was low prices and low purchasing power. The cost of hired farm labor, freight rates, and property tax were high. Exports decreased, and the foreign wartime markets declined, resulting in overproduction at home. Land values dropped 48% during the decade. More grain was fed to livestock because of the high transportation cost for grain and because livestock was more profitable than cash crops (Sweedlum, 1940, p. 334).

By the end of the 1880-1930 period, the intensive livestock production system of farming was in full flower. Northeastern Nebraska had the most livestock per section of any Nebraska area (Hedges and Elliott, 1930, pp. 36-38). Compared to the Southeastern Nebraska General Farming system, the NNILP area had more hogs, more cattle, less poultry, less sheep, and a similar number of milk cows. The hog and cattle production correspond with the corn acreage distribution in the 1920's, as one proof of the system. The cropping system in the NNILP area in 1910-28 was corn about 60%, alfalfa about 5%, oats about 25%, and there was a decline in wheat production (Hedges and Elliott, 1930, pp. 30-31). Crops continued to be improved by better seeds, hybrids,

and farming techniques. Corn and oats occupied a higher percentage of the crops in this area than in any other part of the state because the loess hills soil has good properties for corn: the corn yields are the highest in the state; there is less variability in yields; and corn has a larger net income. Corn is a labor-intensive crop at the time of ground preparation and cultivation. Throughout the 20th century there has been a steady increase in the size of the farm in the state, as farmers leave the land and larger units are more economic. This trend has occurred to the least degree in the NNILP area. The most typical farm size in the area in 1910-25 was 100-175 acres. A major reason for this has been the labor-intensive nature of corn and this system's fairly stable ability to be economic in the long term. To conclude, the intensive livestock production area was mature by 1930 and was recorded by the sources mentioned earlier in the text. Hedges and Elliott (1930, p. 52) described the adaptability of this farming system to northeastern Nebraska well by saying:

. . . it is easier to maintain a permanent agriculture in this area with livestock than with a grain system of farming, and to the fact that livestock is essential to a complete utilization of all resources.

Depression, War, and Post-War Agriculture, 1930-1980

The trends of intensive livestock production, as noted in the previous period, have continued through good times and bad through the next 50 years, with some new variations. The NNILP area occupies nearly the same position it did in 1930 compared to other parts of Nebraska agriculture. This perhaps does not tell the whole story. The pace of change and development has reached nearly whirlwind proportions, and the American farmer, already highly efficient, must react in an increasingly sophisticated manner to new changes in marketing, finance, and purchasing to maintain or improve his position.

The changes in agriculture in the last 50 years are not so important for the type of structure we may wish to consider "historic," now

or in the future, although that may occur. But more so, that the changes in the last 50 years have or are affecting the older historic buildings we are studying. If farm size is increasing and, consequently, farms are being abandoned, this could significantly affect the variety and number of buildings studied. Changes in scientific farming could produce new building types of which one should be aware during survey. A change in farming method may result in a change in the types of buildings, resulting in a slow loss of certain building types. An obvious example is the lack of need for horse barns today. Rarity of an older type may increase its significance. As one surveys for intact farmsteads of a certain period, the surveyor needs to be aware of all the building types represented, and its corresponding rarity.

The cyclical nature of economic life continued with the Great Depression of the 1930's accompanied by a severe drought in the Great Plains. World War II spurred production and most of the 1950's were relatively good times for agriculture. The following statistics from the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's show how the trends described in the early 20th century have continued. Hog production is still (1977) concentrated in terms of numbers in northeastern Nebraska. The area has increased on the western border of the NNILP area as new corn areas are put into production through irrigation. Cattle feeding is still high in northeast Nebraska, but the areas of dominance are more concentrated along the Platte River Valley and Sarpy, Cuming and Douglas Counties (all in the NNILP area). Large feedlot operations are more common, resulting in a definite new change on the landscape. Eastern Nebraska is suitable for feedlots; its higher than optimum precipitation can be handled with proper lot design to prevent excessive mud. Nebraska is a major pork producer, sixth in the nation. Farm cash receipts from hogs is 14% of total income in the 1960's, compared to 30% in 1930. Another important factor for the survey is that the number of pig farms declined in the 1970's from 50,000 to less than 30,000. The size of each hog-farming enterprise has nearly doubled, averaging 200 pigs per farm, and the number of very large enterprises (7,000-15,000 pigs per year) have increased (Williams and Murfield, 1977, p. 84). The same author's

prediction for 1985 is useful in relation to its effect on farm buildings (p. 110):

Nebraska's hog production is expected to increase 40% to 50% by 1985. Pork production will remain concentrated in northeastern Nebraska, but will increase outside of that area as well. The trend toward fewer but larger production units, with an increase in confinement and in the use of mechanized and automated building systems will continue.

Some sheep are in the area in 1977 but they are mainly located in the Panhandle. Dairying has changed the most in the last 50 years in terms of location. In 1937 the largest number of dairy cattle were near the two largest cities in Lancaster, Douglas, and Washington Counties (Bradford and Spidel, 1937, p. 294). Forty years later Gage and Cedar Counties dominate (the latter in the NNILP area). The trend has been to larger commercial operations. To meet Grade A and EPA regulations has required large capital investments (Williams and Murfield, 1977, pp. 82-83).

Corn is still the leading crop by far in the NNILP area. Washington County harvested 10 million bushels in 1973, and the second largest crop was soybeans at 1 million bushels. The production of alfalfa was minimal--100,000 bushels. The largest tonnage of corn silage was produced in Cuming County, where the most feedlots are located. Ensilage preserves the food value for months, even years, under proper storage conditions. More oats were grown in northeastern Nebraska than elsewhere in the state. Corn is still the principal animal feed, and oats are also grown there. Alfalfa has been considerably reduced in popularity, and soybeans have been successfully introduced. As expected, there is less grain storage capacity in the northeast; one would expect to find more in a cash grain farming system.

The NNILP area has shown a comparative prosperity in the state's agriculture. The net income per farm was in the second highest category for the area. The average value of land and buildings per acre was the

highest category; the average value of land and buildings per farm was the third category. In the category "petroleum expense and market value of machinery on farms," the area was in the highest category, reflecting some of the high costs of this type of farming. The importance of livestock to farm receipts is shown in receipts from livestock and livestock products for 1969: three counties from the NNILP area and the 14 counties of the Sandhills were in the 90% range, 23 counties from the northeast were in the 80% range, and seven in the 70%.

Agriculture in the 1980's has been under severe stress; although this has been widely reported in the press, there is little published in the academic press for so recent a date, particularly in relation to Nebraska's intensive livestock area. John Fraser Hart had an interesting article in 1984 which highlighted two farmers in eastern Iowa's corn-hog belt whom he studied in 1959 and interviewed again in 1982. Both farmers were successful in 1959 growing corn, oats, and leguminous hays on 160 acres and using the crops to fatten feeder cattle from the West and hogs raised on the farm in a typical intensive livestock manner. In 1982 the farmer who had not expanded was selling out before he lost everything. The other farmer had enlarged his farm to 1,000+ acres by buying and renting land. Surprisingly, he had completely abandoned the intensive livestock farming system. He was growing corn and soybeans as cash crops. This radical change of system which had been in place essentially for a century (probably more in Iowa), had to be completely altered to adapt to changing conditions. Comparative statistics from the 1964 and 1982 U.S. Census of Agriculture well in the decline in the number of livestock farms in Washington County. The number of farms selling calves and selling hogs and pigs has been reduced by over half in that time: cattle from 711 to 342 farms and hogs and pigs from 648 to 273 farms. The number of cattle or hogs had stayed approximately the same. Therefore, the number of farms with livestock has been significantly reduced in the last 20 years.

Existing Information

The sources used in the preparation of this Historic Context report are listed at the end of the paper. This section is charged with discussing the primary and secondary sources and surveys used in this report, as well as any which may be useful in the further study of this context. In all three instances, reference must be made to the "Existing Information" section of the "Southeastern General Farming: The Period of Expansion and Prosperity, 1876-1919" context report. This section elucidates in detail the same sources which are applicable to the NNILP area context and for much the same ends. Therefore, the same comments are appropriate.

The only primary source for both contexts is the census data for the state of Nebraska. In this report the published statistical tables by county were used for the post-war years where little information was otherwise available. The published statistical tables are quite useful for large, multi-county contexts, such as this, provided comparable categories are available over time. In all cases for the labor-intensive work required of field enumerations and individual census data, clear parameters need to be defined, so the purpose and method are clear.

Of the secondary sources, the more general works in terms of time and place provide a basis for understanding the period. Olson's History of Nebraska is the acknowledged leader of the state histories. The agricultural histories have more specific time or areal studies: Bradford and Spidel; Wessel; Shannon; Richardson; Fite, 1966; Fite, 1977; Baltensperger. A 19th century source (O'Neill) provided an idea of current conditions or perhaps wishful thinking of current conditions in the promotional literature. The most useful secondary sources were those which dealt with systems-of-farming in Nebraska specifically. The majority are over 40 years: Sweedlum, 1940; Spafford, 1919; Hedges, 1930; Garey, 1937; and Garey, 1936. All are published by the University of Nebraska. The age of the publications suggests that perhaps current scholarship has formed different opinions, but this does not appear to be the case from the highly useful and current Agricultural Atlas of

Nebraska by Williams and Murfield (eds.). Contributions are by the faculty of the UNL Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources from the appropriate disciplines. The discussion of the systems-of-farming is very similar.

None of the sources dealt with the systems-of-farming in considerable detail, and no source was identified which covered only one type of farming. There was no thesis discussing the agriculture of an individual county in the northeastern Nebraska context. All the academic secondary listed are objective and well written. Bias exists mainly in the paucity of secondary material found to date on the topic, a deficiency which can be overcome through more work.

The existing surveys of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey and the National Register of Historic Places are discussed in considerable detail in the Southeast General Farming context, of which there is little to add. An additional concern is that to use the surveys with a criterion other than location (i.e., Danish buildings, farmsteads, etc.), it is very difficult to find the appropriate site file. Perhaps the historic context development will provide key words and topics for data base management of some type.

Property Types

The individual family farmstead is the major property type of interest to this context. A farmstead is a collection of many buildings and structures, and the survey is most interested in a collection representing in general all or most buildings over 50 years of age. In this context, the collection, i.e., an intact farmstead, meaning of appropriate age and all the proper buildings and structures extant is the ideal. Individual structures are less noteworthy, unless for some striking individual achievement. The list of such buildings and structures is as follows:

house	cattle loafing shed
cattle barn	hog loafing shed
horse barn	farrowing beds
hog fences	corn cribs
cattle fences	wash house
cellar	summer kitchen
cob house	chicken house
orchard	brooder house
vegetable garden	machine shop
windmill	implement shed
windbreaks	stock tank system
pump systems	silo

The arrangement of the farmstead is also important, and note should be taken of any unusual configuration: remnants of a Danish courtyard farm, for instance. Property types related to agricultural industry may be important, such as seed farms, elevators, or farmer cooperatives.

At this stage of the survey, there are no locational patterns expected for the farmstead property nor the agricultural industry property. Nearly all the sources included the entire Washington County as part of the intensive livestock area. In the 1930's, the county was important for dairying. This influence (although significant today) may be continued in more dairy farms located along the southern border next to Omaha. Fontanelle Hybrids, a seed research farm, was established near Fontanelle; it is the only known agricultural industry in the county. This category was also included because the Crowell family of Blair controlled a large number of elevators and perhaps some will be found in this county.

Evaluating the farmsteads will be difficult for this is a property type whose future is questionable in the numbers previously known. A great many farmsteads and buildings are and will be redundant. The first criterion for judgement is, Is it an intact farmstead or not? If many of the outbuildings are gone, the farmstead has lost its overall character as an intensive livestock farm. Are most buildings over 50

years old? is the next question. If the answer is yes to both questions, then this is a site for reconnaissance-level survey. With the economic stress these farms are under, more sites are preferable, if they meet both questions.

Integrity thresholds for reconnaissance and subsequent surveys are discussed partially above. At this stage of study we are looking at groupings more than individual designs or elements. Location is very important; a moved building most probably loses all association and setting. Setting, association, and feeling are critical. All the various parts of a farmstead prior to 1930 are significant as a grouping arranged in proper manner, which will vary according to farmstead, but the component parts and necessity for dividing of house and house yard with appropriate structures from farm yard will probably occur. Fine quality workmanship is important if unusually fine, but in general is less important at this stage. Materials are to be noted but are not likely to be important unless something unusual is found. Design of farm buildings in the sense of style is not judged important at this stage, in the sense of an unusual feature it is and should be recorded.

It should be noted that the sources recorded in the bibliography do not prepare one with a history of the development of various buildings, structures, or property types. Studies in primary sources such as Nebraska Farmer and the bulletins of the Extension Service for types of advertisements of farm outbuildings and structures. It would be a great service to judge the age of certain buildings (for which construction dates are rarely recorded) and would be a useful check of when certain farm practices and buildings were promoted, popularized and declined.

Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

Preliminary Inventory of
Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Properties

This preliminary inventory is a list of sites that appear to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production (NNILP) context.

NNILP is characterized by the raising of cattle and hogs. On the farmstead, grains are grown for livestock feed rather than being sold for cash. With this type of farming there are a large number of necessary buildings and structures. Barns for the shelter of livestock, farrowing and loafing sheds, facilities for feed grain storage such as granaries, corn cribs and silos, plus cattle and hog fencing systems are typical of this type of farming. Intensive livestock production is the predominant system of farming in the county. See the NNILP historic context for a complete discussion of the farming system.

The sites listed in this preliminary inventory were derived through a multiple-stepped evaluation process subsequent to the reconnaissance-level survey. A total of 212 farmsteads were surveyed in the reconnaissance phase of the Washington County survey.

Survey staff conducted evaluational meetings to determine which NNILP sites appear to be potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP. All NNILP sites were compared within the framework of the historic context. The sites contained in this preliminary inventory were judged to exhibit the best qualities of the type-of-farming system. In addition to meeting the criteria of NNILP, these sites appear to be architecturally significant and retain a high degree of integrity. A total of 35 sites appear to be potentially eligible for NRHP listing. Additional information on all sites included in the preliminary inventory is available in the site cards and in the site files located in the Nebraska State Historical Society Preservation Office.

Intensive survey was conducted on a small sample of sites to obtain further data. The small size of the sample was primarily due to time and economic constraints. Farmsteads selected for possible inclusion in the intensive-level data were evaluated by a site inspection after the

initial evaluation. Sites were compared to reveal which would possibly yield the most information on this system of farming. As the result of this selection process, six sites were chosen as representative of NNILP in the county. In addition, three more sites were chosen for research related to the NNILP context but with Danish cultural associations. The data on these sites is contained in the Intensive Data section following the preliminary inventory.

Intensively Researched Sites Strongly Suggested for NRHP Listing:

- WN00-144: B. H. J. Jungbluth farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-129: Fred Scheer farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-174: Frederick Hartung farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-110: H. R. Schumacher farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-85: Warrick-Compton farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-121: Benhart Gottsch farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-158: George Kuhr farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-229: John Hansen farmstead (see Intensive Data)

Post-Intensive Inventory of Other Potentially Eligible Sites:

- WN00-45: Schmidt-Iversen farmstead (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-136: Non-extant community of Dale, livestock buildings
- WN00-39: Shaner-Neale farmstead
- WN00-13: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-43: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-46: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-94: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-98: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-104: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-105: Preliminarily evaluated as potential intensive site
- WN00-56 WN00-76 WN00-48 WN00-226
- WN00-58 WN00-28 WN00-49 WN00-20
- WN00-59 WN00-31 WN00-86
- WN00-61 WN00-33 WN00-113
- WN00-70 WN00-38 WN00-191

Summary of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Properties

The following six sites were chosen for intensive research in relation to the Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production (NNILP) context. In addition, four more sites chosen for intensive research are related to the NNILP context but with Danish cultural associations. These will be summarized on the page following the sixth site description.

NNILP is characterized by the raising of cattle and hogs. Grains are grown on the farmstead for livestock feed rather than being sold for cash. With this type of farming there are a large number of necessary buildings and structures such as barns for livestock shelter, farrowing and loafing sheds plus buildings for feed grain storage such as granaries, corn cribs or silos and hog and cattle fencing systems.

In the NNILP area it was anticipated that there would be a large number of buildings and structures, a large number of types of buildings and structures, and that the size of individual buildings would be large.

With one exception, all NNILP farmsteads contained a large number of buildings and structures. The Fred Scheer farmstead (WNOO-129) contained the largest number with 17 contributing buildings and structures. Again with one exception, each farmstead contained a large number of types of buildings such as cattle, hog, and horse barns, farrowing and loafing sheds, corn cribs, granaries or silos. The size of individual buildings, especially the barns, on these farmsteads were large in size. The Frederick Hartung farmstead (WNOO-174) was a smaller grouping of buildings than other NNILP sites but had two very large barns and a large granary.

The August F. Schumacher farmstead (WNOO-110) has an unusual barn (one of three in the county) in that there are semicircular fan lights above the windows in the barn. The other two were selected as possibly Danish; however, all three are associated with German farmsteads. The farm was generally a large hog operation; however, a large cattle shed was built in 1914.

The Bernard Jungbluth farmstead (WNOO-144) was unique in that there are two large clay tile barns, a round one for feeding hogs and a 16-sided cattle barn. Each barn contained a central silo to store the feed.

In general, the NNILP sites exhibited a high degree of integrity and are illustrative of the context.

WN00-144 The Bernard H.J. Jungbluth Farmstead



Architectural Description

The Bernard Jungbluth farmstead is an exceptional representative of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production and displays a distinctive collection of early 20th century farm architecture. Located in southwestern Washington County, the Jungbluth farm is somewhat atypical in comparison to other livestock properties documented within the county. The unique characteristics of the farm are witnessed in two respects--architecturally and compositionally.

Architecturally, the farm consists of a smaller complement of buildings (six contributing), but each of these structures were built on a very monumental scale. Thus there are fewer but much larger buildings comprising the farmstead. Secondly, the Jungbluth farm employed the extensive use of clay tile materials, a material used only in limited amounts in other livestock properties. Lastly, the Jungbluth's constructed two barns in shapes undocumented elsewhere in the study area. These are a 16-sided clay tile cattle barn, and a circular clay tile hog barn. Each barn is constructed around a 16-m parameter, clay tile silo with gravity-fed troughs encircling the bases.

Compositionally, the farm depicts a visually aesthetic layout, but lacks the sense of an enclosed working farmyard which has become a consistent characteristic of other Washington County livestock properties. Other buildings on the farm include a 31 m by 10 m clay tile hog house and a large irregular-shaped two-story frame house.



Historical Summary

At age 20, Bernard Herman Joseph Jungbluth left Chicago and journeyed west to Washington County, Nebraska. Born April 30, 1853 in Cologne, Germany, Bernard settled on a farm 4 miles southeast of Arlington several years after an elder brother, Joseph, had settled on a farm near Elk City. As a very disciplined farmer, Bernard kept close watch over his farmstead and expanded his operation into one of the most extensive in the county. After Bernard's marriage to school teacher Ida Fisher (District 10) on August 12, 1875, the Jungbluth's raised five children into the family.

Much of the operations on the Jungbluth farm centered around hog and livestock production. All of the hogs and cattle raised on the farm and ready for market were weighed at their scale house and sent by rail to Dale and later the Omaha market. A railway ran directly behind the Jungbluth farm and passed through the town of Dale, long abandoned, before continuing to Omaha. It is said that many farmers in the Arlington area were saved during "dry" years because the Jungbluth operation purchased much of their feed grains.

By 1901 Bernard had purchased a brickyard at Arlington and many of these bricks were used to erect houses in the community. A three-story mansion was built in 1901 on the Jungbluth farm, complete with furnishings imported from Germany. Fire destroyed the house in 1906. In 1914 Herman Joseph Jungbluth assumed farm operations as Bernard had passed away one year earlier, a victim of the first automobile accident in Washington County. Herman built a second home on the Jungbluth farmstead and it still stands today.

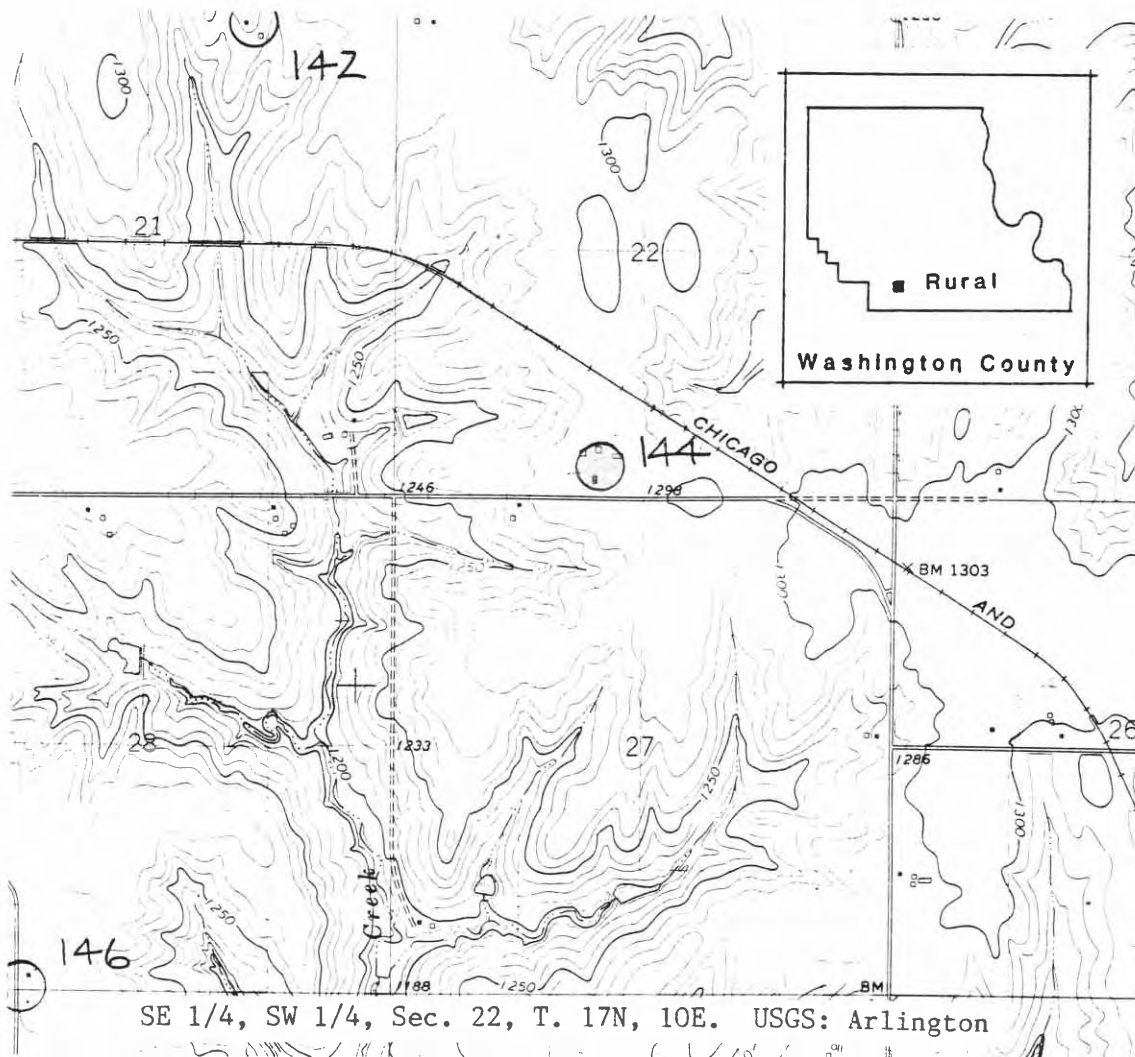
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-144 The Bernard H.J. Jungbluth Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead was chosen as an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production due to the scale of operation, types of buildings and presence of scale house where German cattle raisers shipped cattle to Omaha. Buildings on the farmstead include a large 16-sided clay tile cattle barn and large round clay tile hog barn both with central internal silos and huge clay tile hog house. A permanent agriculture was easier to maintain with livestock than with a grain system of farming.

Rural Location



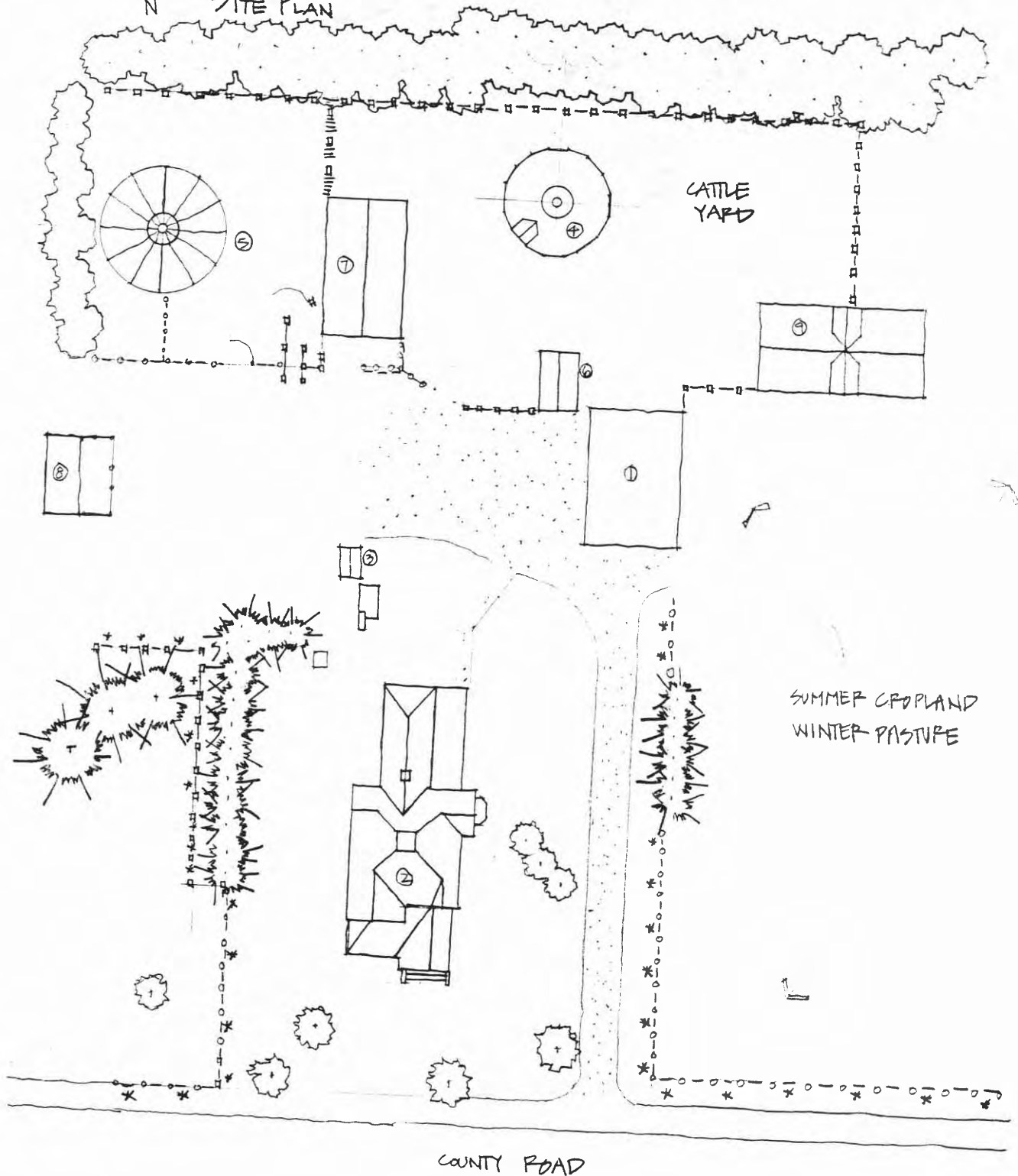
WN00-144 : N.N.I.L.P.
 B.H.J. JUNGBLUTH FARM
 NEHEB: WASHINGTON CO.
 APRIL 16, 1986
 DRAWN BY: J. KAY

BUILDING LEGEND:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. NEW MORTON BUILDING | 6. CONC. BLACK MILK HOUSE |
| 2. HOUSE | 7. HAY SHED |
| 3. SCALE HOUSE | 8. CORN CRIB |
| 4. 16-SIDED CATTLE BARN | 9. HOG HOUSE - TILE |
| 5. ROUND TILE HOG BARN | |



NO SCALE
 SITE PLAN



WN00-129 The Fred Scheer Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in southwestern Washington County, the Fred Scheer farm is a highly significant example of northeast Nebraska livestock producing agriculture. The Scheer farmstead is an exceptionally well organized and visually aesthetic farmstead that contains a full complement of early 20th century agriculture buildings. These include 15 contributing buildings, three contributing structures and one contributing object. The plan of the farmstead consists of a central farmyard surrounded by the commercial livestock buildings on the north and west, the domestic farm buildings and houses to the south, and equipment and grain storage facilities to the east. Access to the farmyard is gained from the south and passes between the poultry yard (frame chicken and 6-sided brooder houses), and the house. The house was constructed in 1904 by Fred Scheer and consists of a two-story, irregular-shaped plan protected by gable and hipped roofs. Constructed in brick, the house is exemplary of the Prussian German brick farmsteads documented in western Washington County. The major livestock buildings to the north and west include: 1) a large frame milking barn with an attached rear tile silo, 2) a gabled roof hog and feeder cattle barn measuring 8.5 m by 13.5 m, 3) a 6 m by 12.8 m farrowing house adjacent to the hog barn, and 4) a gabled roof horse barn with side gable wall dormers and measuring 11 m by 12.3 m. Other significant buildings include the 1880 wood frame house of Calvin Marshall, the original property owner, and a frame apple house with a central vaulted aisle.



Historical Summary

Born in Germany, Herman Scheer came to Washington County from Quincy, Illinois in 1857. After his marriage to Fredricka Gnuse, Herman moved to Washington County and bought several farms in western Washington County. In 1894, Herman purchased the old Calvin Marshall farmstead consisting of 240 acres.

Deed records will lead one to believe Herman was the original owner of this farmstead; however, oral interviews with Obert and Sally Scheer reveal Herman actually bought farmland, including this farmstead, so he could eventually give each of his six sons a farm.

In 1902 Fred Scheer Sr. acquired the 240-acre farmstead from his father Herman. When he was ready to hand farmland down to his sons, he gave Fred Jr. 160 acres and Fred's brother 80 acres to go with 40 he already owned. Thus, Fred Jr. gained 160 acres and his brother 120.

A house was built on the original farmstead in 1904. The remaining buildings were built shortly afterwards. Al Ludwig, a carpenter, and Bill Ludwig, a bricklayer, were responsible for the building expertise and Bill, Fred and Frank Scheer, as owners, performed the labor.

During the period of importance, the farm operation consisted primarily of hogs, poultry, holstein cattle and a large 7-acre apple orchard. One of the common farming practices employed by the Scheer's was to plant corn between the rows of trees. The orchard was located east of the house and included the Jonathan, Red Delicious and Winesap varieties as well as several others. Five additional acres were devoted to a west orchard.

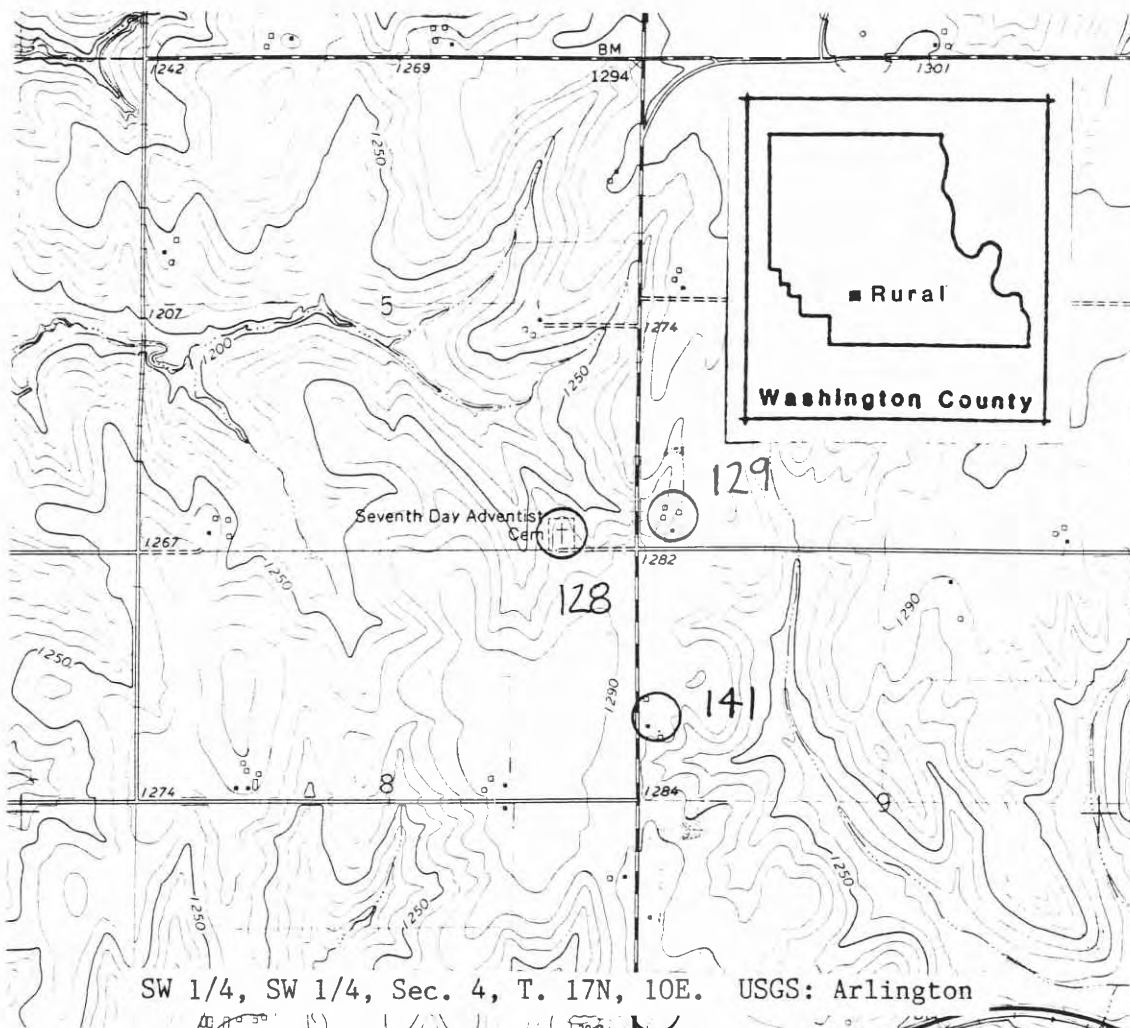
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-129 The Fred Scheer Farmstead

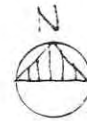
Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead is an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production. The size of farm buildings and scale of the operation are characteristic of NNILP. In all, there are 17 buildings and structures on the farmstead including a cattle feeder barn, horse barn, hog barn and farrowing house, wood corn crib and an apple house. It was easier to maintain a permanent agriculture in the NNILP area with livestock than a grain system of farming.

Rural Location

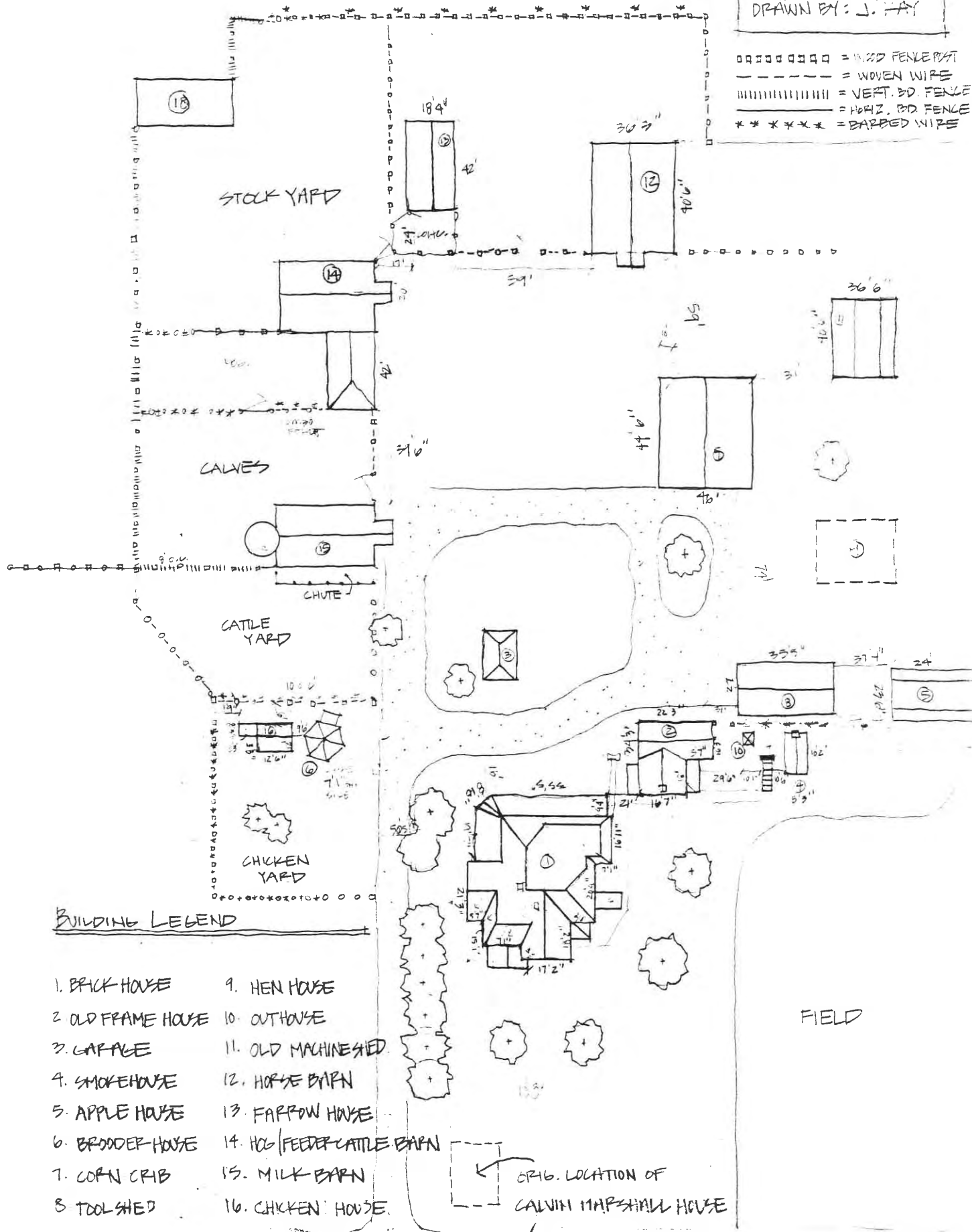


NO SCALE



WIND - 129: SCHEER
N.N.I.L.P. CONTEXT
NEHES: WASHINGTON
DRAWN BY: J. HAY

□□□□□□□□ = WOOD FENCE POST
----- = WOVEN WIRE
||||||| = VERT. BD. FENCE
===== = HORIZ. BD. FENCE
***** = BARBED WIRE



WN00-174 The Frederick Hartung Farmstead



Architectural Description

The Frederick Hartung farm is situated on the eastern ridge of the Elkhorn River valley in western Washington County. Consisting of six contributing buildings and two contributing structures, the farmstead's most impressionable features are clearly the house and two barns. The farm is divided both physically and functionally by the presence of a north-south county road.

Five of the six contributing buildings are located to the east of this road with a single hay barn placed to the west. Despite this division, the sense of the operative farmyard remains cohesive. The west hay barn faces the farmyard in an obvious working relationship with the other barns despite the road that passes between them. This west barn, constructed of wood frame, is protected by gambrel roof and measures 14.7 m by 13.5 m with a side gable addition measuring 5 m by 2.5 m. The second large barn, historically used to shelter horses, is placed across the road and perpendicular to the hay barn. This barn measures 13.5 m by 9.8 m and is protected by a gable roof. The third dominant feature of this site is the two-story irregular-shaped house constructed by Frederick Hartung in 1888. This house exhibits several decorative features, the most prominent of which is the wrap-around eastlake porch attached to the front of a two-story cut-out bay. The porch consists of four sets of paired columns supporting a hip roof with an integrated corner pediment emphasizing the entry. Highly decorative lathework stretches from column to column below a moulded fascia. The house itself is constructed of wood frame and is protected by gable and hipped roofs.



Historical Summary

The Fredrick Hartung family left Quincy, Illinois in 1868 and traveled by covered wagon to Washington County, Nebraska. Surviving on what little provisions they had and that gathered along the way, the Hartung's arrived in Washington County and in 1869 bought 160 acres for \$15 an acre.

Fredrick and his wife, the former Sophie Kruger, were both German immigrants who met in New York and were married May 7, 1857. Originally they settled near Quincy, Illinois but were forced to move west when they realized their 40 acres were not enough to support a family. On his new 160-acre farm in Washington County, Fredrick Hartung built many of the farmstead buildings himself as he was a carpenter by trade. It is believed that Fredrick began construction on many of the buildings around 1888 when he mortgaged \$5,500 from Omaha Loan and Trust. A majority of the Hartung farm operation centered on raising cattle and harvesting feed products such as grain and hay.

Fredrick Hartung died August 19, 1902 and was survived by his wife Sophie who died in 1924. Subsequent ownership went to a son, Gottlieb Hartung, who managed the farm until 1944. The current owners are Mr. and Mrs. Eric Ortmeier.

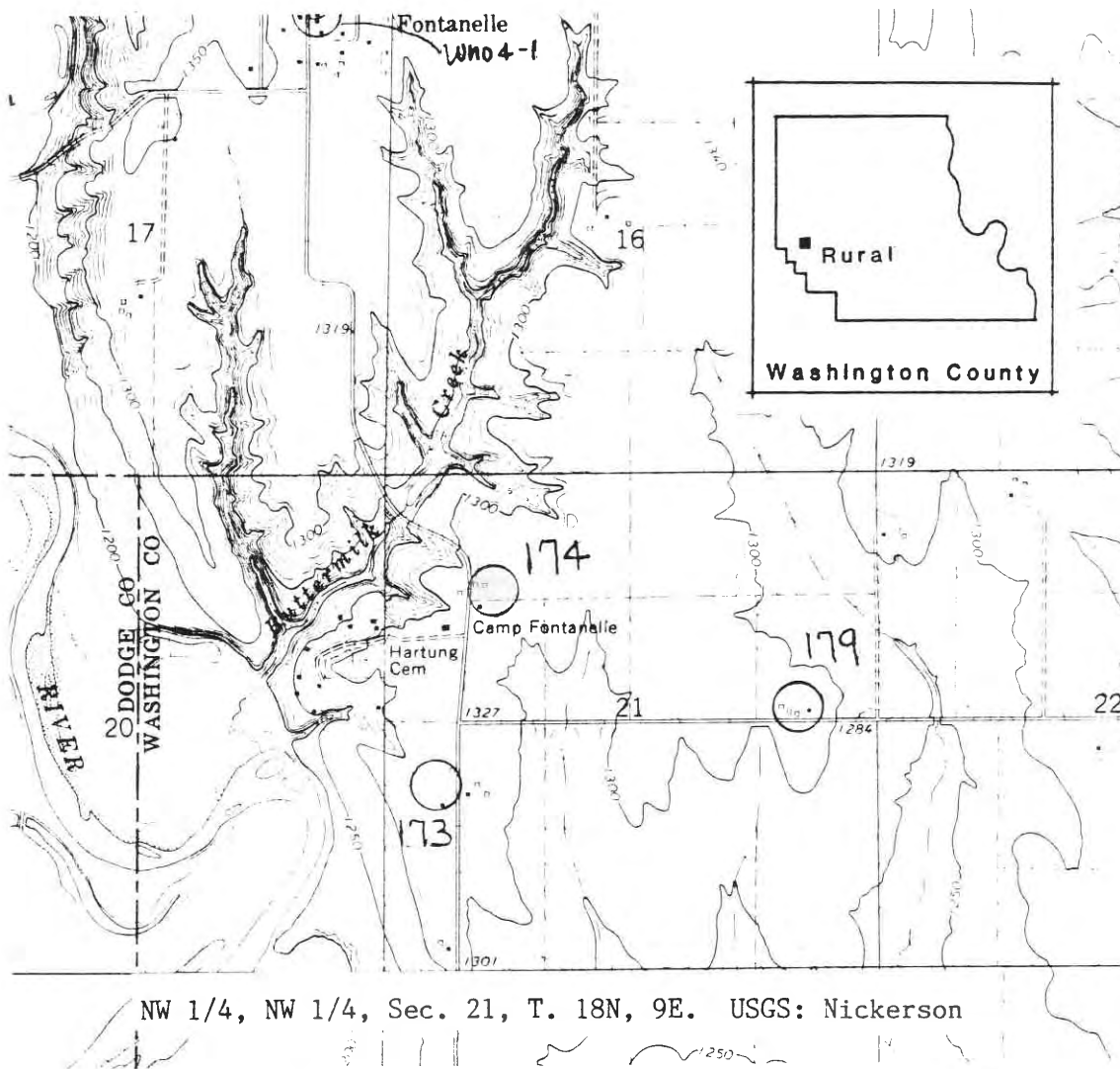
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-174 The Frederick Hartung Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead was chosen as an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production for even though the grouping of farm buildings is relatively small, the individual buildings are very large including two large barns and a large granary. It was easier to maintain a permanent agriculture through livestock production than a grain system of farming in the NNILP area.

Rural Location



WNOO-174: HARTUNG
FARM
APRIL 8, 1986
DRAWN BY: J. KAY

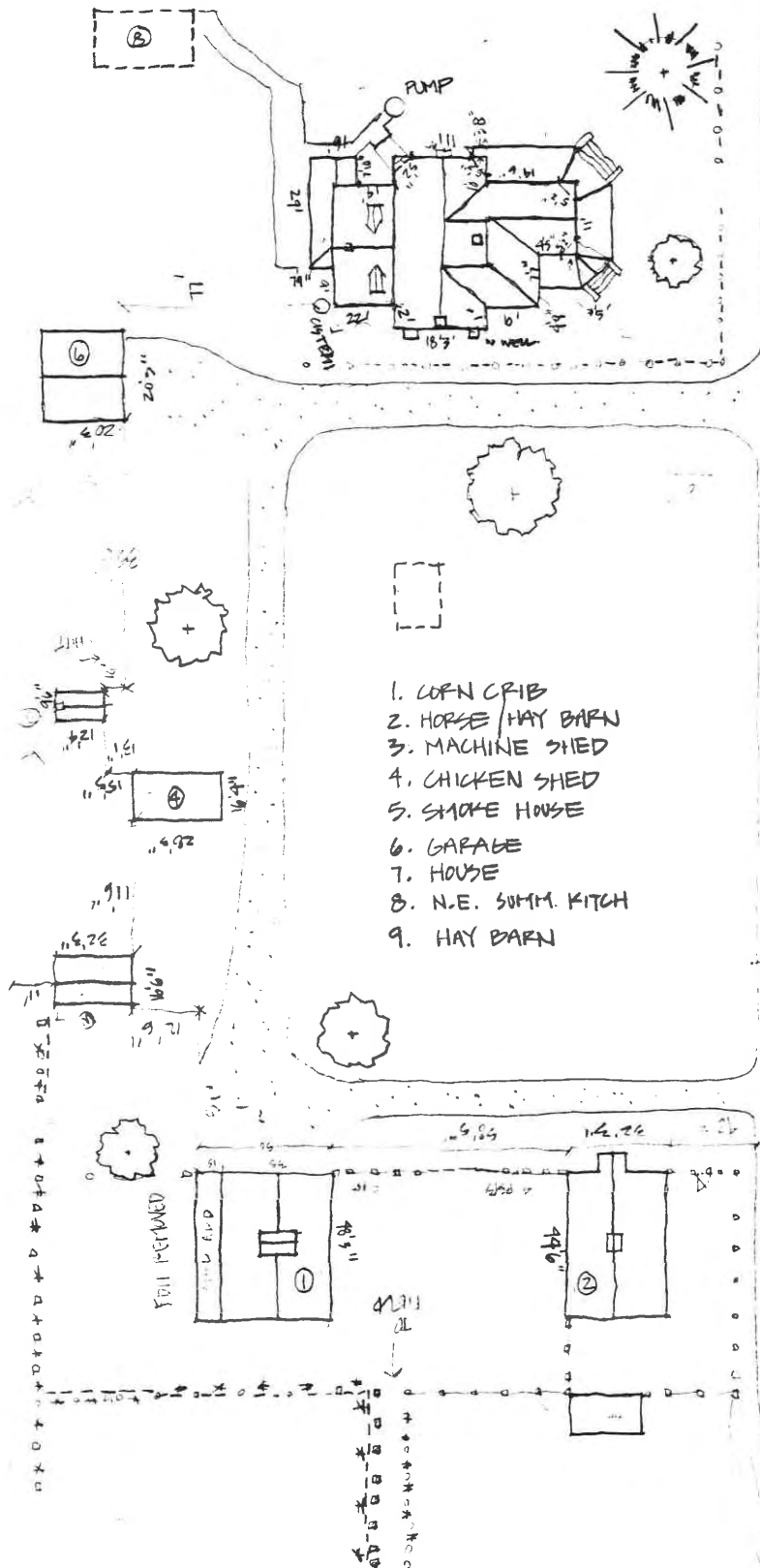


NO SCALE

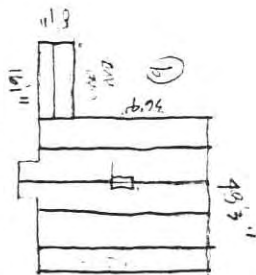
||||| WOOD POST
ooooo METAL FENCE
***** BARBED WIRE
----- WOVEN WIRE



FIELD



FIELD



Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-110 The Henry H.R. Schumacher Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in south-central Washington County, the Henry Schumacher farm is highly representative of late 19th century livestock producing agriculture. The farmstead consists of 18 contributing buildings and structures, 10 of which were constructed prior to 1900. The farmstead is separated into distinct functional zones by a north-south lane which divides the domestic farming area on the west from the commercial livestock area on the east. The buildings comprising the domestic operations are: 1) the one and one-half story wood frame house (1939) with its adjacent summer kitchen (1885), outhouse, smokehouse and cellar; 2) a ca. 1885 wood frame chicken house with cross-gable cupola; and 3) two later wood frame chicken houses (1906).

The facilities associated with the production of livestock not only display a large number of buildings but exhibit a diversity of functions as well. Originally involved in the production of hogs, the Schumacher's had constructed a banked wood frame hog house (1897), a large gambrel roof, wood frame horse/milk barn (1897), and a combination crib/granary/horse shed (1896). The combination crib/granary is supported by a brick foundation and constructed of wood frame with board and batten siding on the south wall and diagonal slated siding on the north. The horse/milk barn exhibits touches of decorative detailing in the semicircular transoms located above the west rectangular windows. This barn has since been converted to an existing hog barn. In 1914, additions to the livestock operation were built in the form of a 16.5 m by 17 m wood frame cattle barn and a 5 m by 16 m pole loafing shed.



Historical Summary

Born in Prussia, Germany prior to 1805, August Schumacher emigrated to the United States and settled on a farm in Washington County, Nebraska in 1860. The first home of August Schumacher was a log cabin, non-extant, which he built on the 80 acres of land he settled upon. In 1878, August transferred his original 80 acres to his son, Henry Sr., who had purchased an additional 160 acres from the railroad company.

Henry Schumacher Sr., born in Prussia, Germany in 1826, built several of the farmstead buildings. A house was built in 1885 along with a wash house and summer kitchen. A barn, corn crib and granary were added in 1887, a hog house and a second corn crib and granary in 1896, and a chicken house in 1900.

In 1901 Henry Sr. passed the farm on to his son, Chris, who added a cattle shed built with cottonwood from along the Papio Creek. A fire in 1939 destroyed the house built by his father, Henry Sr., and the summer kitchen and wash house became their temporary home. In that same year, Chris Schumacher built another house which still stands today. All other outbuildings were saved from the fire and are still standing.

During the period Henry Sr. and Chris had the farmstead, cattle and hogs were raised. Chris ran 20 stock cattle and calves and fattened 150-200 head of hogs on the farm. Over the years, the Schumacher's have maintained this practice of raising hogs and cattle although there has been an understandable increase in crop production. The farm is currently owned by Fred Schumacher and farmed by his son, Dan.

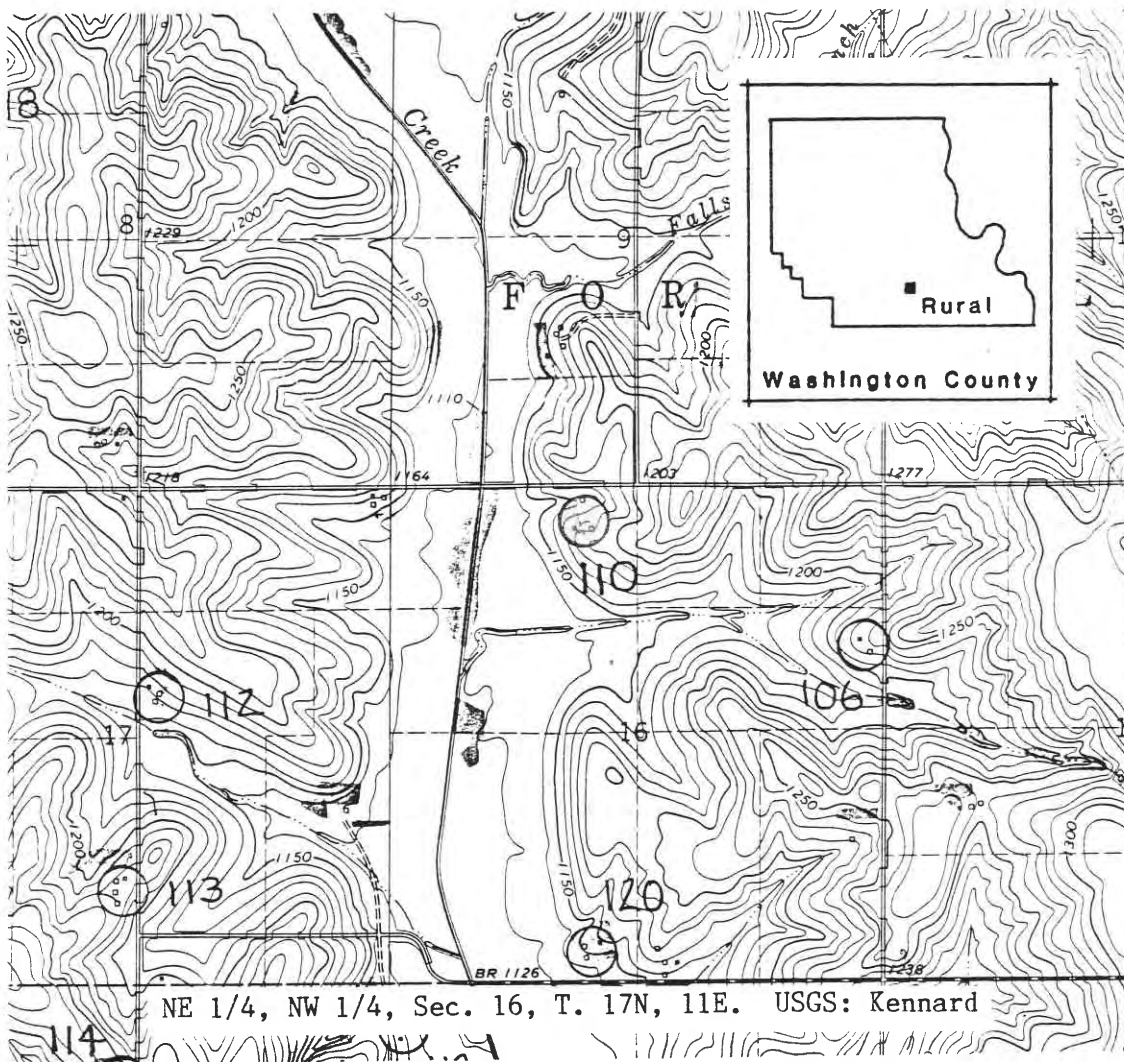
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-110 The Henry H.R. Schumacher Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead was chosen as an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production. The scale of operation and necessary types of buildings for NNILP are present, examples of which are a horse barn, cattle barn, hog house, chicken house, granary, appropriate fencing systems, smoke house and summer kitchen. Romantic details are present on the barn and chicken house. Research revealed the original owner to be German. Livestock was an easier means to maintain a permanent agriculture than with a grain system of farming.

Rural Location



女日女也 日水曰泉田 大日 大信 是日美利有之 女日 大日 女 口

Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

WN00-85 The Warrick-Compton Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in northeast Washington County in eastern Nebraska, the Warrick-Compton farm is representative of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production agriculture. The production of livestock on this property originated in the first decade of the 20th century under the direction of the Warrick family. In 1912, the property was sold to John Compton and the ensuing 20 years witnessed a period of expanded livestock productivity and building construction. Seven of the farm's 14 contributing buildings and structures were constructed by Compton to accommodate his large hog farming operation. The most visually striking of the Compton-era buildings are the horse/milk barn, double pen corn crib and combination farrow/loafing shed. Located south of the domestic farm functions, these three buildings form the heart of the farm's commercial livestock area. The horse barn was converted into a hog barn with the addition of north and south sheds, increasing the barn's dimensions to 19 m by 10 m. Located adjacent to the barn and extending a lengthy 39.7 m in a southward direction is the combination farrow and loafing shed. This pole shed structure is protected by a gable roof and is believed to have been constructed in intervals by simply adding another bay to the south gable end. Other buildings located in the livestock area include: 1) a 4 m diameter clay tile shed (1926); 2) a 21 m by 10 m wood frame corn crib; 3) a second 10 m by 10 m hog loafing shed and four large hog pens fenced with woven wire and attached to the east facades of the hog barn and farrow/loafing shed.



Historical Summary

Born to John and Sarah Warrick in 1864, Isaiah Warrick was a native to Indiana before coming to Washington County, Nebraska. Years earlier, in 1857, Isaiah's uncle, Samuel Warrick, and his father had come to Washington County from Indiana by various means of travel. When they arrived in the Cuming City area in 1858, little ground had been broken and planted.

By 1884, when Isaiah Warrick purchased his farmstead, farming and livestock production had become firmly established in Washington County. Unfortunately, Isaiah did not live long enough to realize the full potential of his farmstead. During the year ending May 31, 1885, Isaiah Warrick was killed after a bout with typhoid fever according to census records.

For some unexplainable reason, deed records do not show a change of ownership after Isaiah's death until 1909. In 1909 Carrie Fee and her son, Lloyd Warrick, assumed ownership and in 1912 it was assumed by John Compton.

Construction of the farm buildings occurred in three phases. Isaiah built a hog loafing shed, house and tool shed in 1885. John Compton, in 1912, was responsible for building a creamery, chicken house, a corn crib with an elevator, silo, hog barn additions, hay shed, loafing shed, farrowing shed, and a non-extant scale house for weighing livestock and hogs. 1940 saw the addition of a hog loafing shed and farrowing shed by Mr. Compton also. Tom and Sue Wakefield are current owners of the farmstead and raise hogs exclusively.

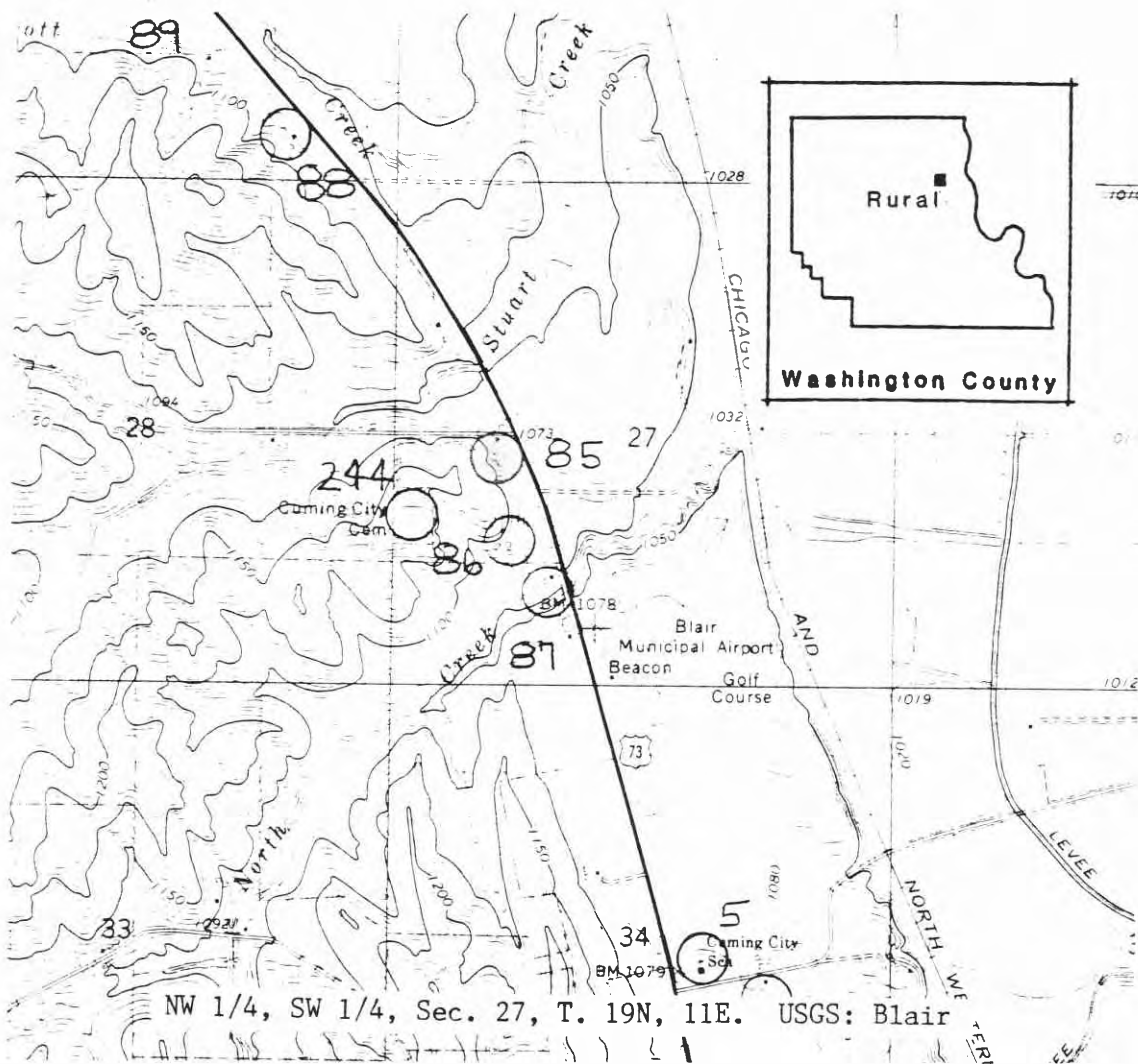
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

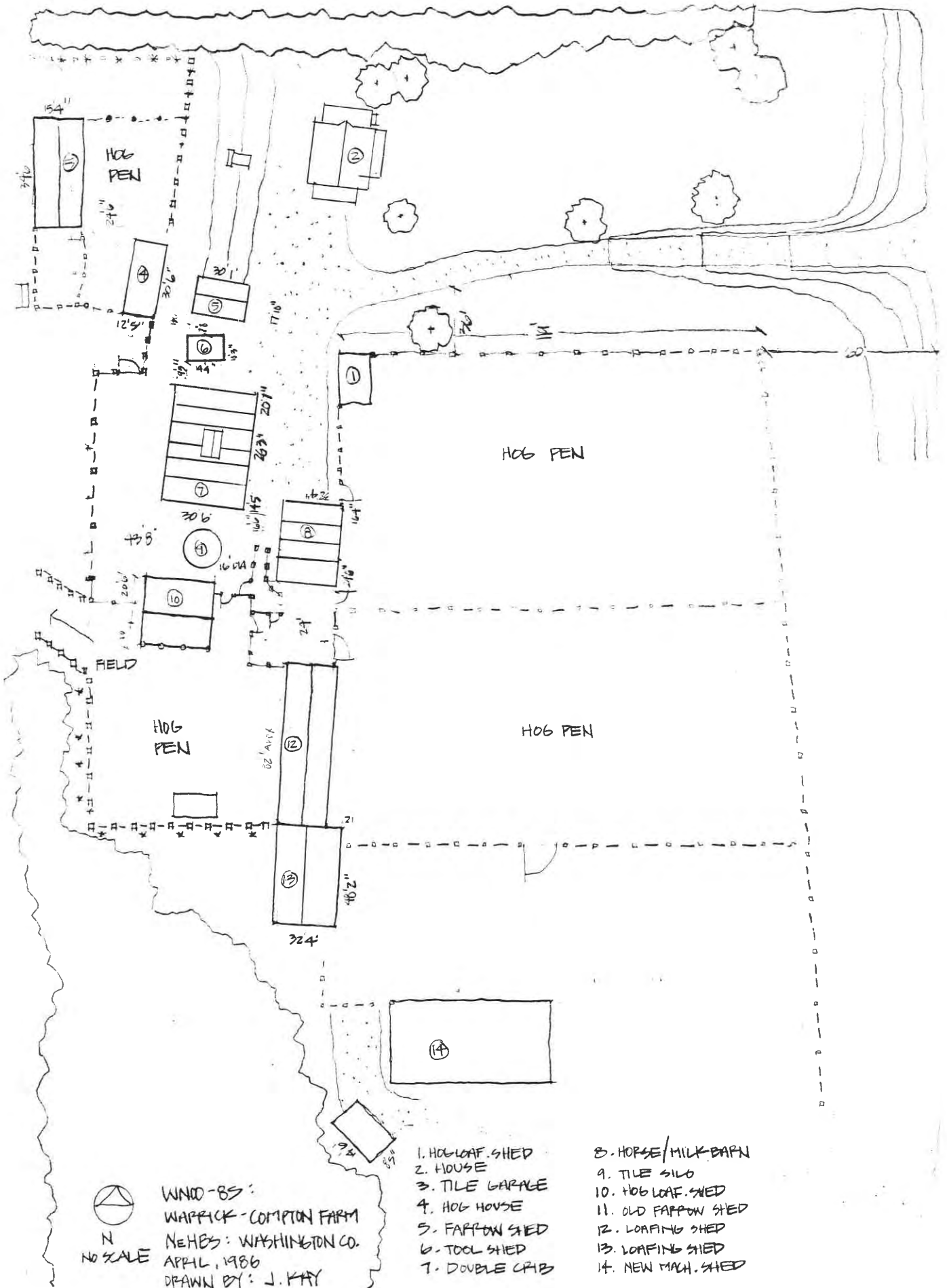
WN00-85 The Warrick-Compton Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

The farmstead was chosen as an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production area due to the types of buildings represented and the scale of the farm operation. Representative buildings include a hog barn, long hog loafing shed, farrowing shed, wood corn crib and two huge barns. The frame house originally had a mansard roof but has been extensively altered. It was easier to maintain a permanent agriculture in the NNILP area with livestock than a grain system of farming.

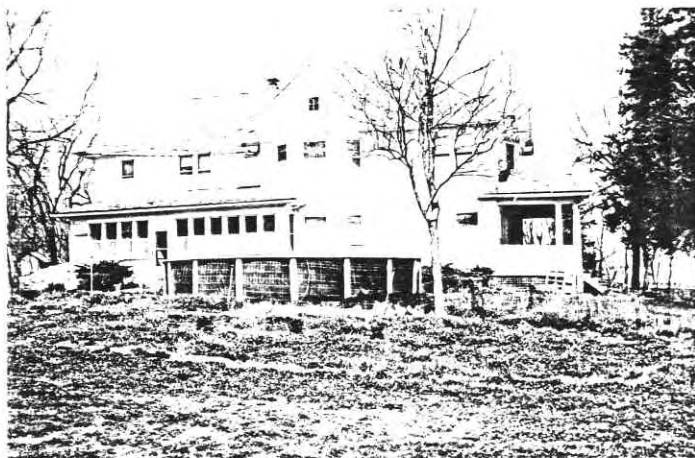
Rural Location





WIND-85:
WARRICK-COMPTON FARM
NEHEB: WASHINGTON CO.
APRIL, 1986
DRAWN BY: J. KAY

WN00-45 The Schmidt-Iversen Farmstead



Architectural Description

The Schmidt-Iversen farmstead is a significant representative of early 20th century livestock agriculture and is noted for its accompanying farm architecture. Located in southeastern Washington County, the Schmidt-Iversen farm is composed of 18 buildings and structures, four of which are non-contributing, with distinction noted for individual features as well as for the complex as a whole.

The buildings of the farm are arranged around the periphery of a central farmyard which is accessed through a west entry drive. Consequently, a strong sense of central enclosure is created by the placement of the farm's four major components. These components and their respective placements are: the domestic farm functions to the north, the commercial livestock area along the south, and large windbreaks to the east and west.

The major visual feature of the north domestic zone is the two-story, T-shaped house built in 1914 by William Iversen. The house is constructed of wood frame materials and measures 18.2 m by 9.2 m with hipped and gable roofs, respectively. The house is oriented in an east-west direction which results in the "front" of the house facing away from the central farmyard.

The major agricultural buildings found in the south livestock zone consist of: a 21.9 m by 16.7 m feeder cattle barn, a 7.5 m by 18.5 m hog house, a 12.8 m by 12.3 m wood frame corn crib, and a 15.3 m by 23.5 m gambrel-roof horse/cattle barn.



Historical Summary

Carl Schmidt came to Washington County, Nebraska in 1858 from Wurtenburg. In 1882 Carl purchased a farmstead and started a small hog and cattle operation there. Shortly after 1882, Carl built a home that would only last until 1913. He is also credited with starting a small orchard behind the house, portions of which are still visible. One of his lasting contributions was a cellar, still in use, made of brick and featuring an arched ceiling. Carl built several outbuildings too.

In 1905 William Iversen, age 31, purchased the farmstead and made significant contributions to the site. After 9 years, William demolished the house built by Carl Schmidt and built his own, which still stands today. To make use of the cellar left by Schmidt, he incorporated it into the new house with access to the cellar from inside the basement. Heat was pumped over to the cellar in the winter from a nearby building due to temperature fluctuations which often froze canned and storage goods. William also built most of the current existing structures. Construction of a horse and cattle barn, feeder cattle barn, hog barn and a crib with an inside elevator were all credited to William. Most of the farm operations during William's tenure, ending with his death in 1961, was devoted to hogs and cattle.

Chris Iversen inherited the farm upon his father's passing in 1961 and recently Dana and Judy Wolf have assumed ownership.

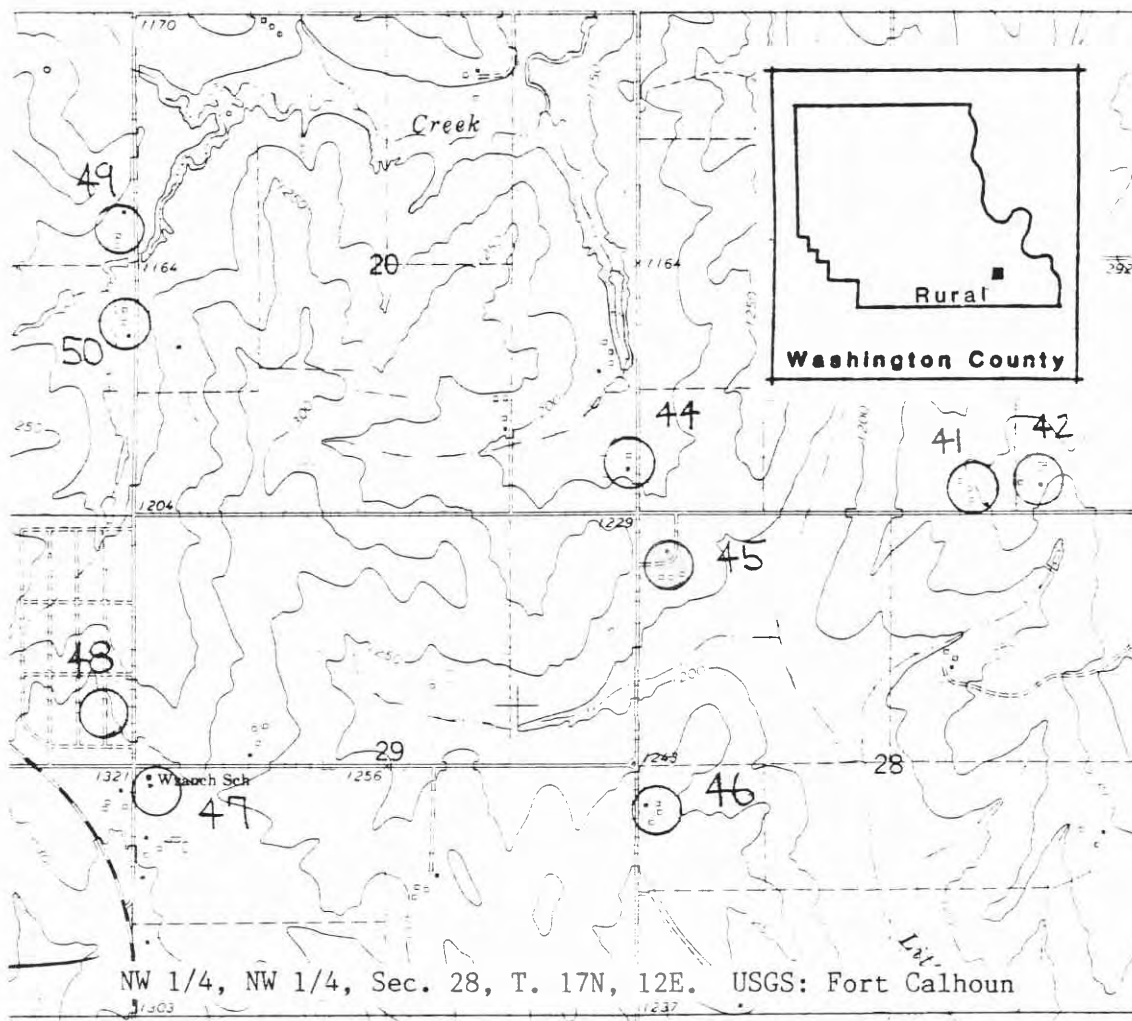
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

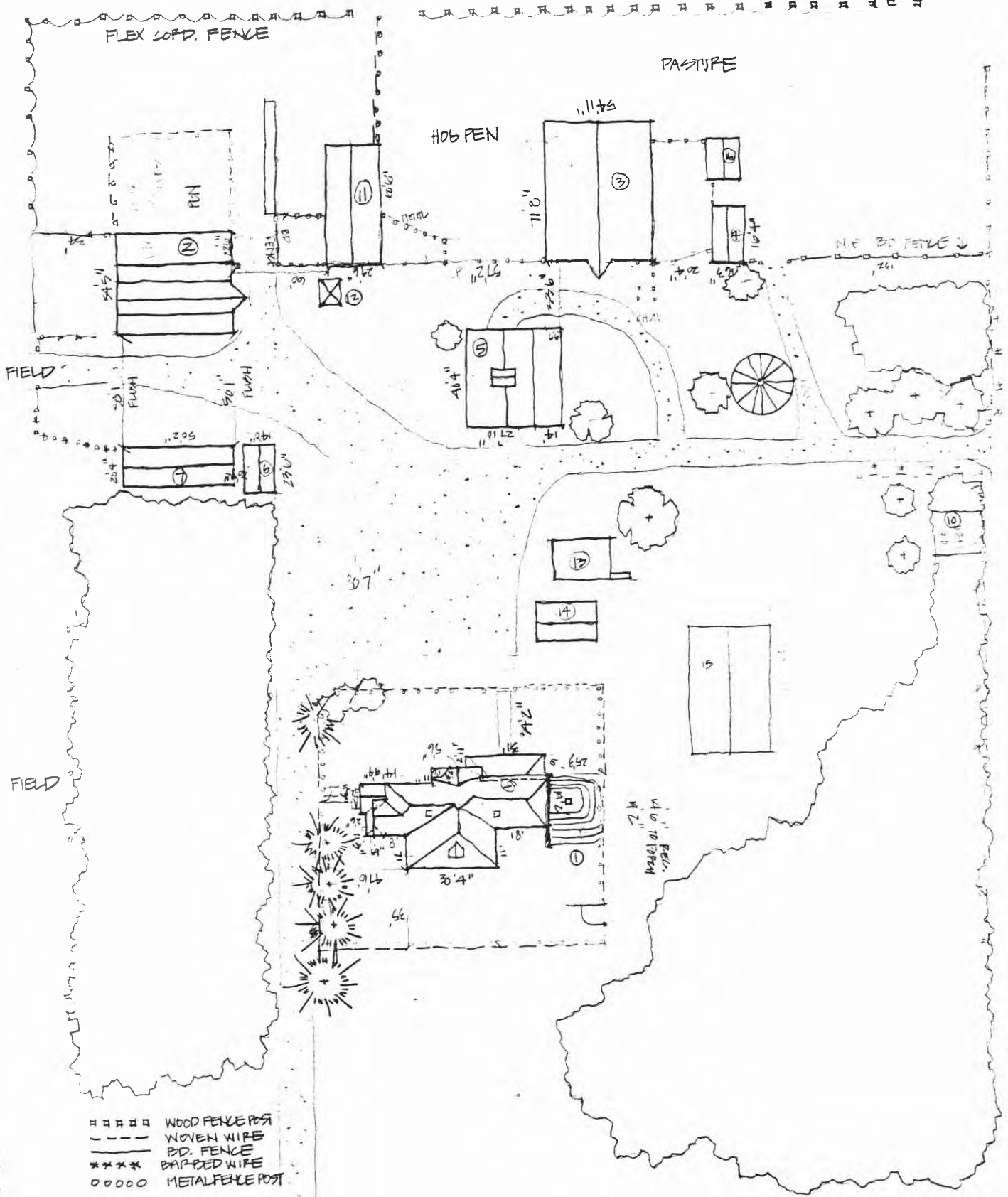
WN00-45 The Schmidt-Iversen Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead was chosen as an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production. The size of the farm buildings and scale of operation are characteristic of the NNILP area. There are numerous building types such as a large cattle barn with attached loafing shed, a cattle feeder barn, hog barn for 50 hogs, wood corn crib and granary. It was easier to maintain a permanent agriculture in the NNILP area with livestock than a grain farming system.

Rural Location





WNO-45: SCHMIDT-VERSEN
 N N I. L. P. CONTEXT
 APRIL 11, 1986
 DRAWN BY: J. KAY
 L. HABERLAN

1. ORIGINAL CELLAR
2. HORSE/CATTLE BARN
3. FEEDER CATTLE BARN
4. FEED SHED
5. CRIB W/ ELEVATOR
6. OLD CORN CRIB
7. MACHINE SHED
8. HOG SHED

9. HOUSE - 1914
10. OLD ORCHARD
11. OLD HOG BARN
12. WINDMILL
13. CONK. BLACK SHED
14. CONK. BLACK GARAGE
15. MORTON BLDG.
16. FEED HOUSE (PIG)



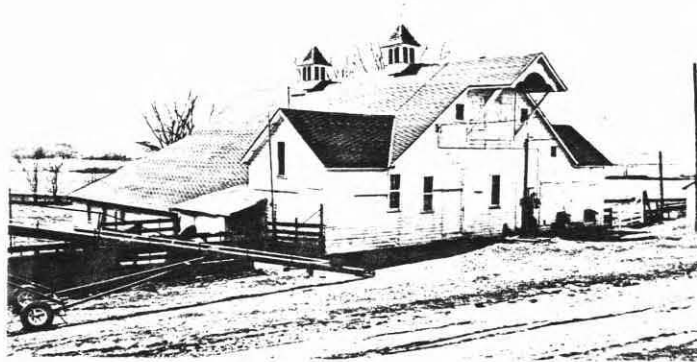
NO SCALE

Summary of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Properties

The following four farmsteads are representative of the Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production area but in addition are notable for their Danish cultural associations. These sites meet the criteria for numbers of buildings, scale of buildings and sizes of buildings of the NNILP context, as discussed previously. In addition, they were chosen as possibly Danish due to the presence of certain design motifs previously identified as Danish. These design motifs included steeply-pitched roof, wall dormer or entry wall dormer, integrated porch, jerkinhead roof, "romantic" details in wood such as elaborate cornice moldings, bargeboards, window moldings, porch details and door details. In all cases the houses possessed these motifs such as gabled wall dormers or romantic detail such as bargeboards and eastlake-type porches or both. See summary page for Danish sites not associated with livestock production for further elaboration of selection process.

Two of these farmsteads included dairying, with dairy barns built in the late 1910's or early 1920's. During this time dairying was an important component of agriculture in the NNILP area due to stable dairy prices in comparison to other farm prices. In addition to dairying, the Hans Jensen farmstead (WN00-229) had a cheese factory associated with it from 1897 to 1908.

In general, these sites exhibit a high degree of integrity, are illustrative of the NNILP context, and proved to be associated with Danes.



Architectural Description

Located in south central Washington County, the Benhart Gottsch farmstead combines the influences of Danish-American culture with northeast Nebraska livestock agriculture. The most impressionable feature of the Gottsch farm is the aesthetically-arranged composition of the site plan. The farmstead is entered through a long south drive lined with an allee of pine trees. This lane divides the farm into two distinct functional zones. To the east is the domestic farming area with the house yard to the south, house and brooder house to the north, and an extensive row of cedar trees enclosing the east. To the west of the lane is the livestock producing areas with the cattle yard and barn to the south, horse and milk barn to the north, and hog barn and corn crib to the west. The cattle yard area is focused around the large wood frame cattle barn. This barn measures 25 m by 18.6 m and contains a central pole structure covered by a gable roof which adjoins a lower hip roof covering the perimeter stalls and loafing sheds. Two transverse front gable wings and a pair of pyramidal roof cupolas add distinction to the form of the barn. The domestic area is focused around the presence of the large two-story wood frame house built in 1906 by Benhart's brother Fred, a local carpenter. This irregular-shaped house is protected by gable and hipped roofs which are decorated with scroll and lathework at the bargeboards.



Historical Summary

An immigrant of Kørsar, Sjaelland, Denmark, Charles Gottsch and his wife Catherina (married in 1868) became the parents of Benhart Gottsch on January 17, 1874 in Douglas County, Nebraska. It was in Douglas County that the Gottsch family originally homesteaded before purchasing farm land from Hans Mortensen in 1887. Although Charles did purchase the land according to deed records, his son Benhart and wife Helene homesteaded there.

Benhart and his wife lived in a non-extant house on the Washington County farmstead from 1896 to 1906 and during this period the outbuildings and two barns were constructed. In 1906 another barn and a new home were built before Charles deeded the property to Benhart in 1913. The carpentry work was performed by Benhart's brother, Fred, who was a carpenter by trade in Bennington.

Over the next 88 years, the Gottsch family continued to operate the farmstead; Benhart passing it on to his son, Glenn, in 1952 before it was sold to Lynn and Lisa Eicke in 1983. Through this period, both cattle and hogs were raised on the Gottsch farmstead and selected crops grown.

Now the Eicke farmstead, all structures built from 1896-1906 are standing and in use.

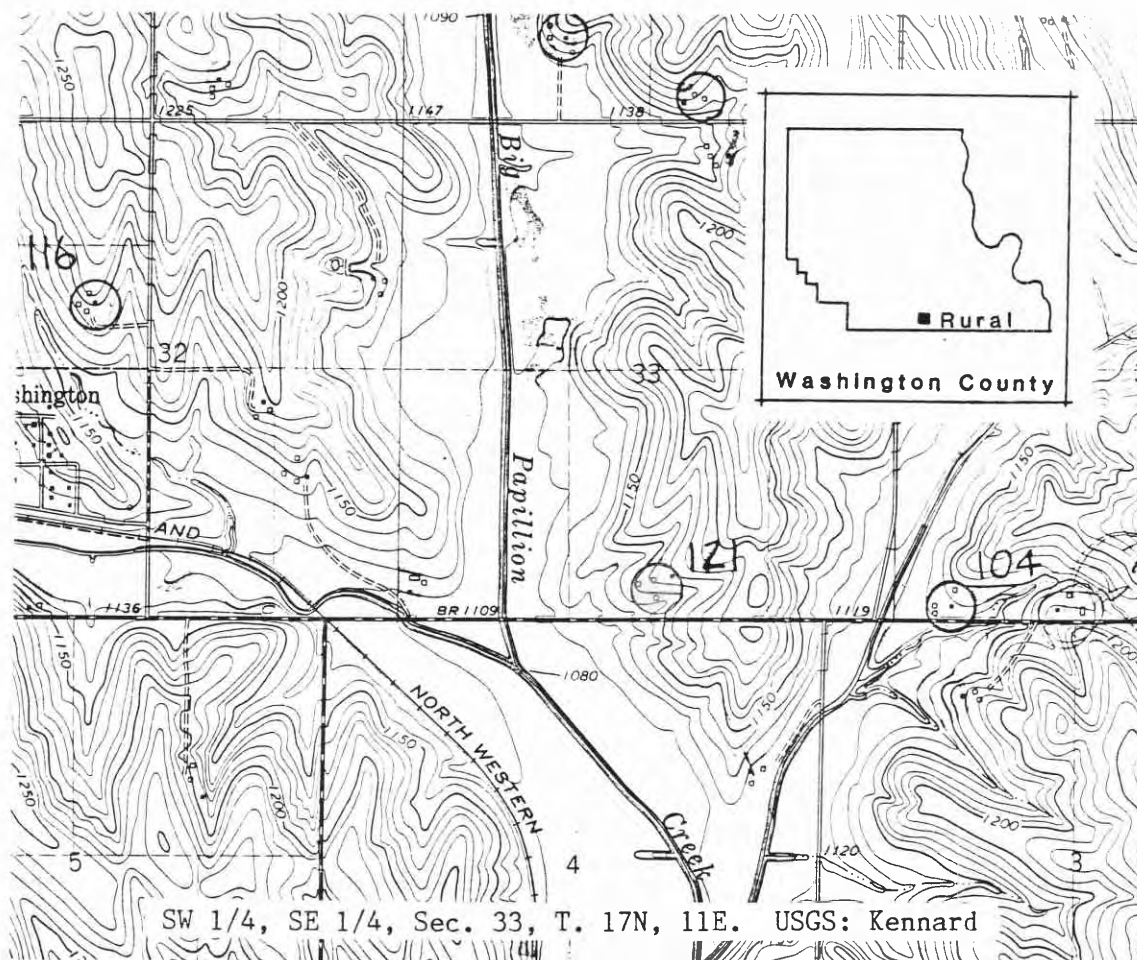
Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

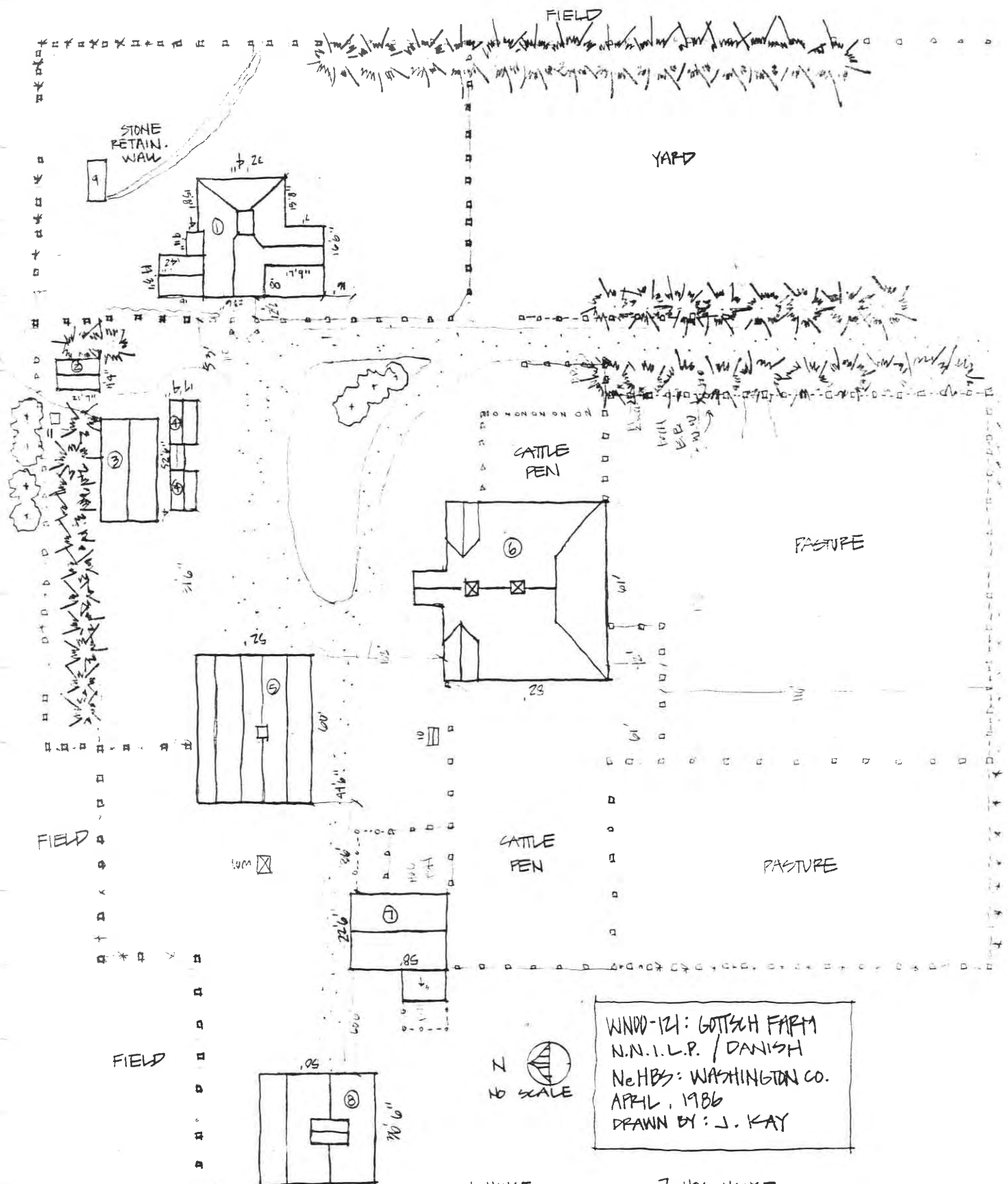
WN00-121 The Benhart Gottsch Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead is an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production with a Danish cultural overlay. The large scale and function of the operation are characteristic of NNILP. Cattle and hogs are produced on this farmstead on a large scale. Buildings illustrative of NNILP include a very large hay barn and granary for feed storage, large cattle barn and large hog barn. Both cattle and hog fencing systems are present on the farmstead. The house was identified as possibly Danish because of the abundant romantic detail. Bargeboards are present in the gables. The roof has flared eaves. Eastlake porches complete the picture. The interior has a finely crafted stair with open landing. Spindlework and balustrades are covered with decorative detail.

Rural Location





WN00-158

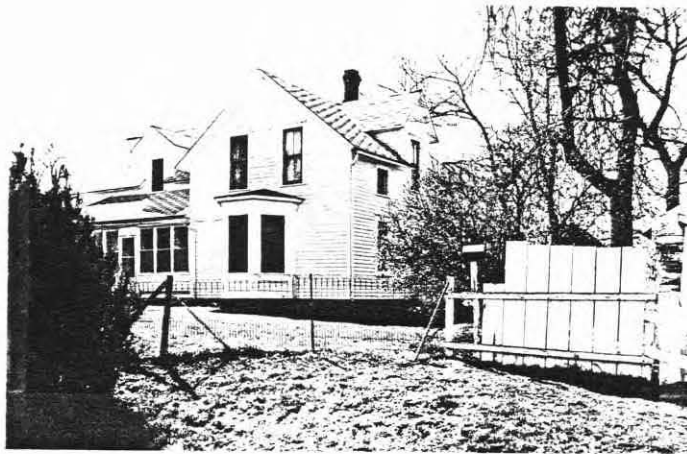
The George Kuhr Farmstead



Architectural Description

The George Kuhr Sr. farmstead, located in central Washington County, makes a significant contribution to the historical documentation of Danish-American livestock producing farmsteads. The building arrangement of the Kuhr farm was unlike that of any other intensively researched site in the county. The commercial livestock and domestic farming areas are placed to the rear of the property and are visually obscured by the house and its landscape plantings. Therefore, unlike other livestock properties, there is no discernable comprehension of the farm layout as viewed from the road.

A second unique quality of the Kuhr building arrangement is created by the division of the domestic farm areas from the areas of commercial livestock production. Placed immediately behind the house in semicircular fashion and comprising the domestic grouping are: a frame garage, milk barn, chicken houses and a combination hay and horse barn. These buildings face the rear of the house and form a tight, central farmyard used for the farm's domestic-oriented functions. Behind this semicircular arrangement is a second enclave of buildings comprising the commercial livestock area of the farmstead. This second functional grouping is accessed by passing through the domestic zone and includes the following buildings: 1) a wood frame granary built in 1924 and measuring 10 m by 5 m, 2) a 19 m by 13.5 m wood frame cattle barn, 3) a wood frame and pole hog house built initially in the 1880's in the dimensions of 9.6 m by 29 m and expanded in the 1890's to the size of 9.6 m by 43.2 m.



Historical Summary

George H. Kuhr came to America in 1866 but did not settle in Washington County prior to the 1870's. Coming to America as an immigrant from Elsdorf, Schleswig, Germany, George married Anna Christine Drevsen in Omaha. Anna had come here from the same Schleswig area 6 months before her husband. In 1874 George bought 80 acres near the present town of Orum.

With lumber being scarce, George had to go to the river to find wood for fuel, lumber and small trees for the farm. George also bought timber land by the river in Iowa to cut up and haul back for use as firewood and lumber. It was due to such scarcities as lumber that many settlers built their homes with one to two rooms to begin with and added rooms later as lumber and money became available. Such was the case with the George Kuhr farmstead. The north portion of the house was built in 1880 and a south portion in 1918. Numerous outbuildings were built in 1880 also and a large hog barn in 1890. Both George Kuhr Sr. and George Kuhr Jr. built these structures.

Additional land was added to the Kuhr farmstead when the sons of George Sr. were able to work on the farm. After 26 years of farming, George Sr. and Anna moved to Blair in 1900 leaving George Jr. to farm the land.

LeRoy Kuhr now operates the farmstead but has gone to a general farming practice rather than raise hogs and cattle as did his father and grandfather.

Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

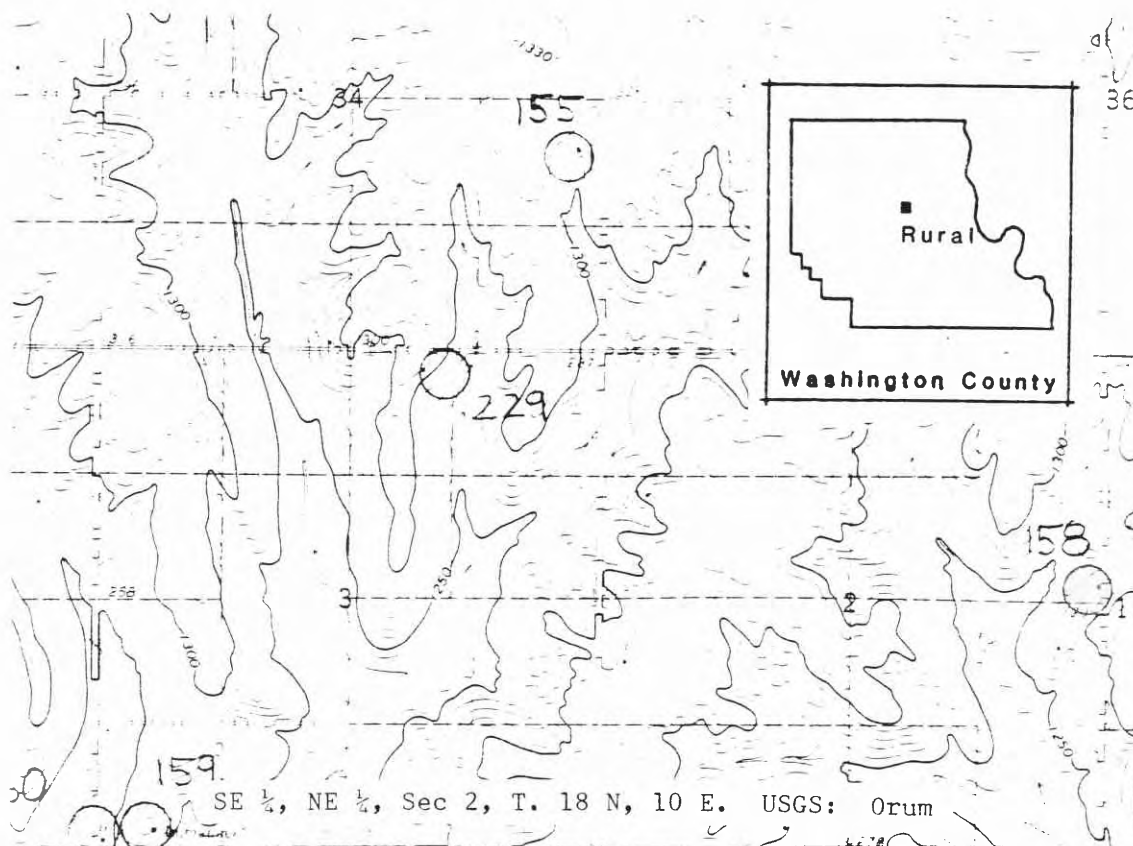
WN00-158

The George Kuhr Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead is an example of Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production with Danish ethnic characteristics. The farmstead has all the building types identified as necessary for intensive livestock production on a scale large enough to qualify as intensive. Illustrative farm buildings include a huge hog barn, large cattle barn, granary, and a hay and horse barn built in the 1880's. Hog and cattle fencing systems are present including a large fenced area for grazing. A dairy barn (1924) would have been a typical addition to the farmstead at this time. Dairying in Washington County was an important component of agriculture in the 1920's due to stable dairy prices in comparison to other farm prices. The original part (north) of the house incorporates gabled wall dormers which were identified as a Danish characteristic. There is a high degree of integrity evidenced in the entire farmstead. Deed research and oral interviews revealed the original owner to be from Schleswig, an area of Germany with cultural associations with Denmark.

Rural Location



N

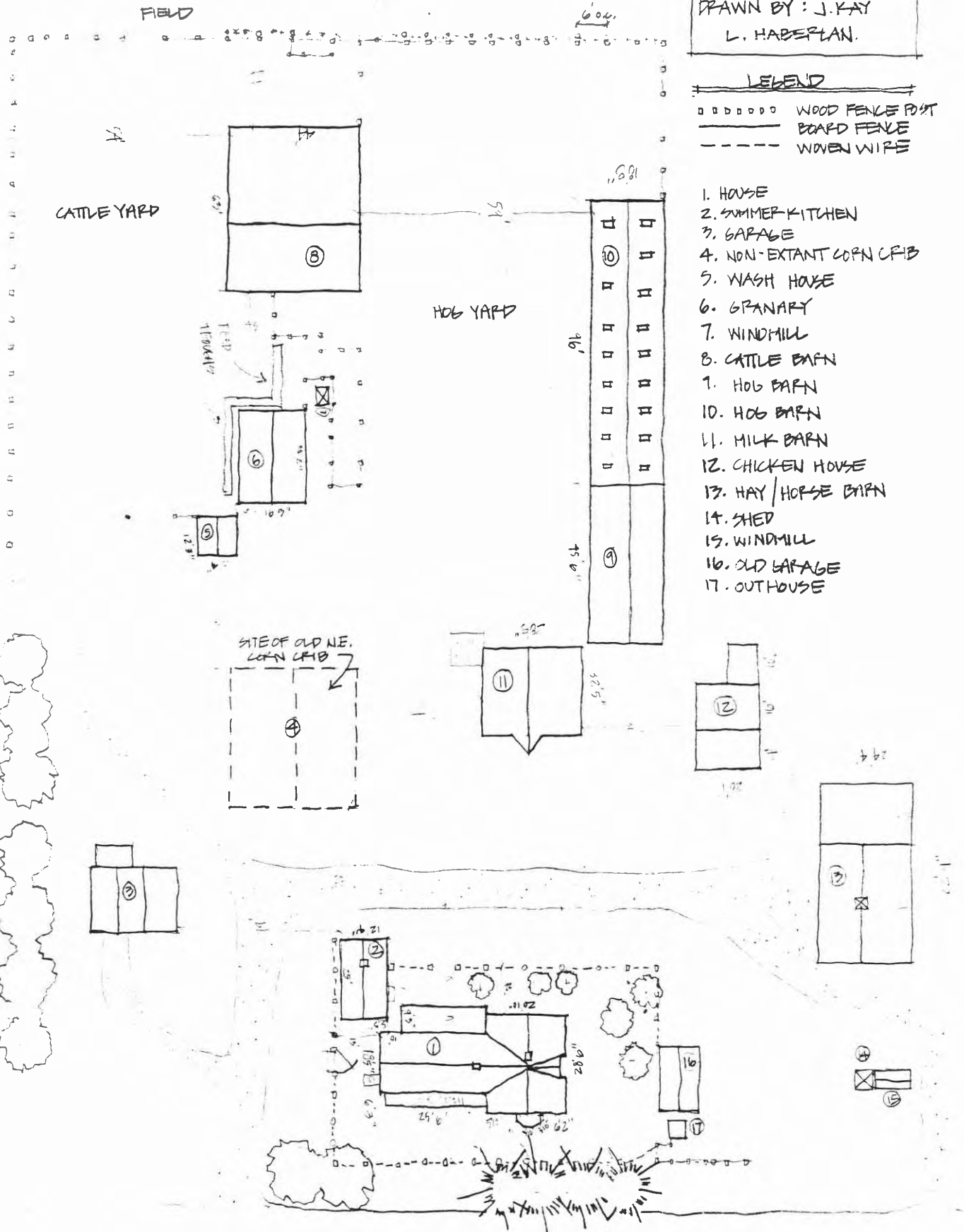


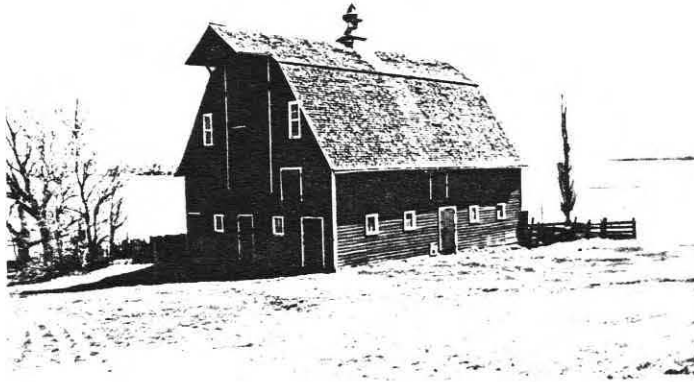
WN00-158: KUHR FARM
WASHINGTON CO. NCHES.
APRIL 1, 1906
DRAWN BY: J. KAY
L. HABERMAN.

LEGEND

- □ □ □ □ □ WOOD FENCE POST
 ————— BOARD FENCE
 - - - - - WOVEN WIRE

1. HOUSE
2. SUMMER KITCHEN
3. GARAGE
4. NON-EXTANT CORN CRIB
5. WASH HOUSE
6. GRANARY
7. WINDMILL
8. CATTLE BARN
9. HOB BARN
10. HOB BARN
11. MILK BARN
12. CHICKEN HOUSE
13. HAY/HORSE BARN
14. SHED
15. WINDMILL
16. OLD GARAGE
17. OUTHOUSE





Historical Summary

Coming from Fyn, Denmark in 1865, John Hansen bought 80 acres of land from the Union Pacific Railroad in 1886. Two acres of his 80-acre farmstead were sold to an interested party of Wisconsin men who were interested in building a cheese factory. Interested parties from the Rosehill and Spiker areas were sold shares and became stockholders. One of the stockholders, Niels Christiansen, a carpenter, was hired to build the cheese factory and a home for the Hansen's.

In 1895 the bank foreclosed on stockholders in the cheese factory because of operating losses and the Blair State Bank assumed ownership by giving the highest bid at a sheriff's sale. By 1897 John Hansen bought back his 2 acres from the bank, now containing a house and abandoned cheese factory. During its operation, however, the cheese factory employed several area men and bought milk from area farmers.

William Hansen, the only son of John, married in 1908 and started farming on 40 acres given to him of the original 80 acres. Later in 1908, shortly before his father's death, William purchased the remaining 40 acres for \$2,000. During this period the cheese factory served as a barn and weekend dance hall. William Hansen also had a second home built in 1913 and a large barn in 1918. The original house, built with the cheese factory, was then moved next to the second home and used as a wash house.

Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production

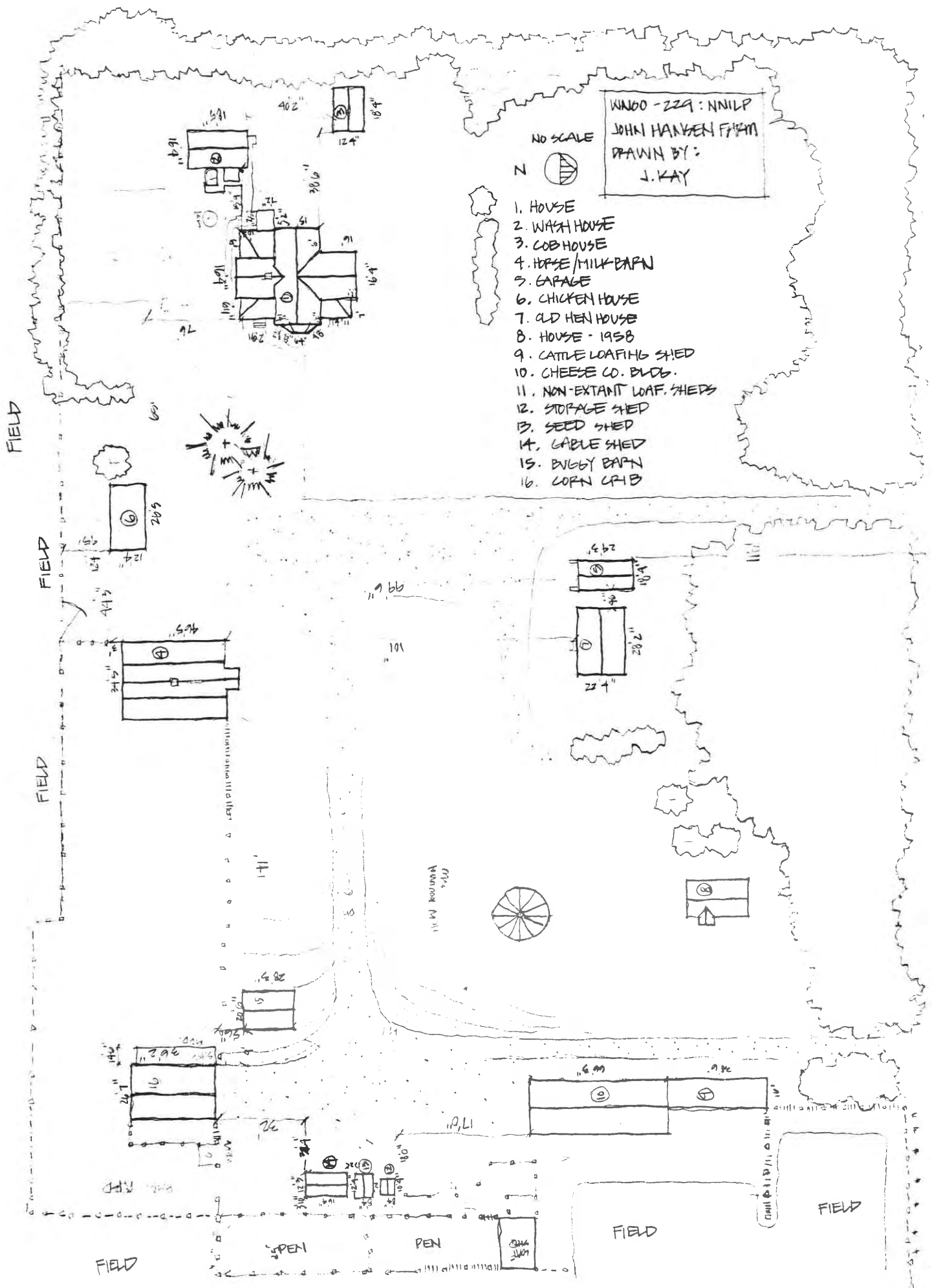
WN00-229 The John Hansen Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

Located in central Washington County, the John Hansen farm is the most functionally unique and therefore difficult farmstead to categorize. Despite its inclusion in the livestock-producing context, the Hansen farm is atypical of this farm-type in comparison to other Washington County livestock-producing properties. Unlike other livestock farmsteads, the Hansen farm combined commercial dairy interests into their productional operations. The 1885 Agriculture Product Census reveals the Hansen's owning 26 milk cows, far more than what was necessary for personal consumption needs. The typical number of milk cows for "livestock-only" farms averages approximately 10 per farm. The Hansen's unusually high number of milk cows in conjunction with the 10-year existence of the Blair Cheese Company on an adjacent 2-acre lot, supports the belief of a combined dairy-livestock operation.

Secondly, oral sources have stated that, in later years, the Hansen's made a consistent practice of purchasing excess cattle and hogs from the German producers of western Washington County as they trimmed their herds. The Agriculture Census of 1885 verifies this with the recording of 25 cattle purchased and 33 head of cattle sold. The total number of cattle owned by Mr. Hansen in 1885 was 46. Thus, over 54% of his 1885 herd had been purchased in that same year. The Hansen's would then fatten the livestock for several weeks before shipping them to Omaha via railway for slaughter. Because of this practice, the Hansen's never owned a large carry-over herd or dealt with the production of calves. Consequently, the Hansen farm had an influence in the livestock market but not in the actual production of livestock in the procreative sense.

The buildings of the farmstead reflect this in the fact that there were no permanent buildings used for sheltering livestock. The cattle were simply put to pasture with a series of non-extant loafing sheds as their only shelter and the hogs were pastured with protection coming from mobile pole structures located on the farmstead and these include 14 contributing buildings and three contributing structures.



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2. Danish-American Influences Context

A. Research Design

B. Historic Context Report

C. Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

D. Bibliography

DANISH-AMERICAN CULTURE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY



Research Design

APPENDIX B

Historic Context: Danish-American Influences

1. Examples of Danish expression will most likely be found in places with a high percentage of Danish-born population.

The reconnaissance survey for Danish-American cultural expressions will concentrate in the following precincts and wards:

Blair, Ward 4	Grant Precinct
Kennard	Herman Precinct
Blair Precinct	Washington
Lincoln Precinct	

2. Event: Danish churches are important examples of Danish cultural expression.

We will record all Danish churches throughout the county.

3. Event: Danish expression may be found in certain architectural design motifs. (Source: Betsinger, Faber, Murphy (1983), NeHBS of Dannebrog.)

We will note in the reconnaissance survey buildings, such as houses, farm buildings, churches and halls, which display the following motifs:

Steeply-pitched roofs	Jerkinhead roofs
Gabled wall dormers	"Romantic" details in wood:
Entry wall dormers	such as cornice moldings,
Integrated porches	bargeboards, window moldings,
	porch details, door details.

*See examples on following pages.

4. Event: Interior decoration seems to be an important part of Danish expression (Source: Betsinger).

This survey as proposed and contracted does not allow for an inspection of all domestic and church interiors in the above listed precincts and wards to find painted scenes or floral wall designs. To overcome this deficiency to a limited extent, we will contact local historical and preservation organizations for their recommendation for possible examples.

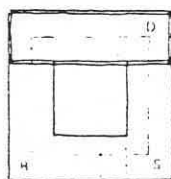
5. Event: Possible construction of North European-derived farm buildings.

Farmsteads in northern Europe are often characterized by farm buildings with several functions under one roof: house-barn combinations of various functional units. Danish farmsteads are noted for steadings--all farm buildings connected, perhaps even to courtyard effect. Any suggestion of these characteristics will be noted in detail at reconnaissance-level survey and considered for intensive level work due to the dominant ethnic groups in the county. We expect to find very few, if any, buildings of these types.

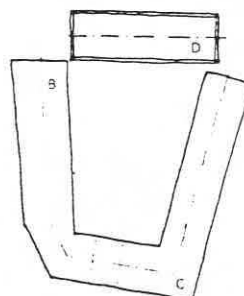
6. Personages:

F. H. Matthiesen, Blair merchant

Pastor A. M. Andersen, Founder, Trinity Seminary/Dana College



DENMARK



DENMARK

D: Dwelling
B: Barn
L: Loft
G: Guest house
S: Shop
C: Cow
H: Horse

History

The Danish immigrants that came to Nebraska in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were but a tiny part of the largest folk migration in history. Between 1814 and the beginning of World War I, 52 million persons left Europe and their ancestral homes to move to the United States and other countries in the new world. The more than 300,000 Danes were a small fraction of the total European emigration but a number equal to about 10% of the population of Denmark in 1900 (Petersen, 1984, p. 2).

According to the Harvard Encyclopedia of Ethnic Groups, Danish immigration to the U.S. followed the same pattern as Norwegian and Swedish but on a smaller scale. There were two peaks of Danish immigration: the first in 1881 to 1883 with an all-time high in 1882, the second peak came between 1903 and 1905. The smaller scale of Danish emigration from Denmark can be attributed to three factors: earlier and more extensive industrialization in Denmark; mass emigration began a generation later (in the 1870's) than the Swedish and Norwegian; and the size of the homeland population (Thernston, 1980, pp. 275-276).

The first half of the 19th century was a period of reform in Denmark. A liberal constitution permitted wide personal freedoms including freedom of worship. This time was also one of cultural awakening. Elementary education was compulsory and Grundtvig's folk-schools provided secondary education for rural youth. Art and literature flowered in a spirit of national romanticism (Petersen, 1984, pp. 15-16).

In the second half of the 19th century Denmark was undergoing a population boom that strained its limited land and resources. The development and use of vaccines in Western Europe caused a sharp decline in infant mortality. Because of this the population grew beyond the ability of agriculture to feed it and industry to employ it as the industrial revolution reduced the number of available jobs, especially in the crafts.

The cooperative movement was a positive response to problems in agriculture. The first cooperative store was established in 1866. The

first cooperative creamery was established in 1882 as Danish farmers shifted to dairying and livestock production as a response to cheap American grain flooding the European market (Christensen, 1952, p. 14).

Hvidt describes Danes of the time as restless and dissatisfied. Improvements in communication and travel brought about the realization there were possibilities for a better life outside the village of one's birth. The Danish government land policy preventing subdivision of farm lands below a subsistence level was a factor encouraging emigration.

Few small-holders emigrated, but their children did. Mass emigration from Denmark's rural districts was the plight of the landless--the farm hands, the milk-maids, the servants, the parias with no land inheritance in prospect and with slim chances of ever saving up enough to buy even a small plot of land (Hvidt, 1976, p. 144).

The promise of free land after passage of the Homestead Act provided a powerful lure to settle on the plains of the United States. The railroads, steamship and land companies did much to promote and recruit Danes to emigrate as did letters from relatives and friends in the United States.

Denmark's problems in the second half of the 19th century were compounded by a disastrous war with the Germans. Until 1864 the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein were linked to Denmark through a personal union with the Danish crown. When Denmark suffered a bitter defeat in the war with Prussia in 1864, some 150,000 people, who were thoroughly Danish in speech as well as national loyalties, came under the rule of Prussia. The duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg were ceded to Prussia under terms of the peace treaty (Hvidt, 1976, p. 155).

The result was an exodus from the territory to avoid the Prussian draft, national persecution, economic hardships, and systematic germanization. North Schleswig, where the population was almost purely Danish, saw the greatest emigration. Because of economic conditions in

Denmark not all that many emigrants settled there and Hvidt concludes these people came to America (Hvidt, 1976, p. 155).

The Immigrants

According to Hvidt, Danish immigrants to the United States were later in time of arrival, fewer in number and more widely dispersed than other Scandinavians or for that matter, most European ethnic groups.



BILLE ON FARM IN AMERICA.

Map showing the distribution of the Scandinavian population in contiguous areas of Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and the two Dakotas east of the Dakota river. N, Norwegians; S, Swedes; D, Danes. The figures following indicate the population of each nationality.

Distribution of Danes in 1896 - Bille

Danish colonies began to spring up in the East Coast in the 1870's. By 1910 more than half of all Danish immigrants in North America were settled on farms on the prairie from Kansas to Saskatchewan (Hvidt,

1976, p. 255). Bille presents the distribution of Danes and other Scandinavians in the eight contiguous farm states of the upper Midwest and Plains in 1890 in the midst of the period of Danish immigration. The lesser numbers and wider dispersal of the Danish population are already evident in the distribution on the map. Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan and Utah had sizeable Danish populations but Iowa has been the most Danish state. By 1910 over 10% of all Danes in the U.S. resided in Iowa, although they made up barely 2% of the population of the state. For many years Omaha and Council Bluffs had a sizeable Danish population (Thernston, 1980, pp. 275-276).

The Danish population is scattered throughout the state of Nebraska; however, there are two concentrations. The largest concentration is along the Missouri River near Omaha, Douglas County (including Omaha) plus Washington and Dodge Counties to the north and west. The second concentration of Danes in Nebraska is in the central part of the state in Howard and Kearney Counties (Nielsen, G. R.).

The best-known Danish settlements in Nebraska are in Howard County. Dannebrog in Howard County was settled by Danes from Wisconsin who formed the Danish Land and Homestead Company in 1871. Dannevirke, the second Danish settlement in Howard County, formed as an outgrowth of Dannebrog. North and west of Dannebrog the town of Nysted was founded in 1882. Nysted was more centrally located in the Danish community than Dannebrog and became important a few years later when the Danish-American Folk School (HW09-3) was founded there. The folk school, modeled after N. F. S. Grundtvig's Danish folk schools, was one of the longest lived in the United States. It functioned from 1887 to 1936 (Nielsen, G. R.). The Danes in Howard County were active in local politics, even electing several men to the legislature. This was not typical, as nationally few Danes participated in politics (Thernston, 1980, p. 279).

In eastern Nebraska, Omaha Danes were dispersed throughout the city as there was no Danish neighborhood (Chudacoff, 1972, p. 65). The churches formed the focal point of the Danish community. There were, however, two major Danish institutions headquartered in Omaha that

helped retain cultural cohesion. The first being the Danish Brotherhood which is a nationwide fraternal order that began as an insurance company but was reorganized in 1882 with its focus changed to include the preservation of Danish culture. The second, "Den Danske Pioneer," is a Danish language newspaper founded in 1872 and published in Omaha until 1958 when publishing offices moved to Illinois. Strongly anti-authoritarian and anti-clerical, by 1914 it had the widest circulation of any Danish language newspaper in the United States.

In the 1870's Danes who desired to preserve their Lutheran heritage began to form churches. The Midwest, with the large number of immigrants, was the area in which the immigrant church was founded and spread (Knudsen, 1950). A number of factors made the organization of a Danish Lutheran Church difficult. The widely dispersed settlement patterns, neither missionary, clergy nor funds from the mother church and finally the schism that had existed within the Danish church since the 1860's allowed a single evangelistic effort. Since the 1870's there have been two Danish Lutheran denominations (Hale, 1984).

The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was founded in 1872 and was first to exist as a separate organization. Several of its early pastors had been active in the Danish state church inspired by N. F. S. Grundtvig, theologian and folklorist. As subscribers to Grundtvig's ideas they were liturgically formal and tended to subordinate the Bible to the Apostle's Creed and the sacraments. Seminaries for the "Danish Church," as it was popularly called, were opened in West Denmark, Wisconsin and Des Moines, Iowa. Several leaders in the Danish church were instrumental in transplanting the Grundtvig-inspired folk school to America. These schools sought to preserve the best of the Danish heritage including the language as well as teaching traditional academic subjects. The folk school at Nysted, Nebraska (HW09-3) was established as part of this movement. In 1962 the denomination changed its name to the American Evangelical Lutheran Church and merged with several synods of Swedish, Finnish and German ancestry to form the Lutheran Church in America (Mortensen, 1967).

Many pietistic Danish immigrants opposed the Danish Church. They temporarily united with like-minded Norwegians in the Conference for the Norwegian-Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1884 they formed their own church which was eventually called the United Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1884, Trinity Seminary (WNO2-5), later known as Dana College, was founded. Dana College became the only four-year liberal arts college in the United States to be established by Danish immigrants (Murphy and George, 1980). This denomination was popularly known as the "Blair Church" and emphasized Biblical authority, revivalism, the necessity of conversion and strict personal morals. In 1960 it was absorbed in the merger that formed the American Lutheran Church (Hale, 1984).

The agricultural marketing cooperative and the cooperative movement in general is a creation of Denmark.

The Farmers Elevator movement originated in Nebraska and Iowa, apparently at least partly in the Scandinavian areas; and the beef, grain and cream and egg marketing cooperatives which existed in considerable strength in the Midwest and Plains between 1900 and 1940 were concentrated in the states having sizeable Danish populations (Olson, 1976, p. 258).

The Herman Elevator in Washington County was organized in 1919 having Danes as principal office holders along with those of other ethnic affiliation. Whether or not they were the principal organizers is undetermined.

The People: Census Data

The ethnic diversity of the people who came, settled and made their homes in the county are an important aspect of its history. The settlers in Washington County came from almost every state in the union and from almost 20 foreign countries. A general analysis of census data was undertaken to help understand ethnic groups and Danes in particular in Washington County.

Three U.S. censuses were chosen: 1880, 1900 and 1910. The 1880 census was chosen as a pre-Danish immigration year because Wayne Wheeler (1916) listed no Danes for that year. (This later proved to be incorrect based on census data and other secondary sources.) The 1890 census has been destroyed, and the 1910 census is the latest available. These years cover the major time of immigration to Washington County as well as the rest of the state. It was decided to record the birthplace of all persons age 18 and older; in the interest of time, not all persons were recorded.

The United States census data on individuals was a significant primary source in this study and was the only source used in the analysis of the nativity of residents of Washington County for 1880, 1900, and 1910. This primary source has a definite bias in the latter two years of data which inhibited the research. In the 1880 census all the Germanic principalities are allowable entries for "Place of Birth." Entries for the United Kingdom are given as England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, even though they are a united country at this time. In the 1900 and 1910 census, the United Kingdom listings are handled in the same way, but all German listings are entered as "Germany" and not by the principality or province. Since both countries are united at this time, this is an inconsistency in the treatment of British and German nativity. Considering the diversity and variety of German principalities, this was a considerable loss for this study. As was discovered in the 1880 census, Washington County had an important representation of persons from Schleswig and Holstein who have cultural associations with Danes. It would have been useful to know the provincial affiliations of the Germans in the latter two censuses for comparison with the 1880 data.

The initial list of countries for foreign-born persons was based on those identified by Wheeler with some alterations; they are as follows:

Austria	Holland	Scotland
Bohemia	Hungary	Sweden
Denmark	Ireland	Switzerland
England	Poland	Wales
France	Norway	Other
Germany	Russia	

Recording the U.S.-born persons by each state was not useful in terms of time or in the types of conclusions we were attempting to draw. The states were grouped by region with the assistance of Kathleen Fimple, Preservation Historian, N.S.H.S. and Henry Glassie (1968, figure 9). The groupings are as follows:

North: NY, ME, NH, VT, CT, RI, MI, WI, MN

Mid-Atlantic: PA, NJ, DE, MD

Upland South: VA, WV, KY, TN

Lowland South: LA, MS, AR, AL, GA, FL, SC, NC

Midwest: OH, IN, IL, IA, MO

Other U.S.

Nebraska

The 1880 U.S. census does not use the name "Germany" (which was not unified until 1870), but lists nativity by German states and principalities. We recorded nativity by the state listed. Then, for the purpose of understanding the variety of German states, they were grouped by regions. This was particularly useful for the Danish Overlay study because the northern states of Schleswig and Holstein have strong Danish associations and could be placed culturally in association with Danes.

Danish-born persons were never a large percentage of the population in the U.S. or Nebraska. Matteson listed Howard County with having the highest percentage of Danish-born persons in 1880 and 1900, 10.52% and 10% respectively. Kearney County ranked second with 8.57% in 1880 and 7.66% in 1900. Washington County ranked third with 3.22% in 1880 and 6.06% in 1900. In Washington County, Danish-born persons were the second largest foreign-born group. Washington County precincts with significant percentages of Danish-born persons are listed below. As noted earlier, Germans from Schleswig and Holstein have a cultural affiliation with Danes. They were included in the 1880 figures to give added dimension to the information. The percentage given is of the total number of persons recorded in that geographic unit.

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>1800</u>			<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
	<u>Denmark</u>	<u>Schleswig/ Holstein</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Denmark</u>	<u>Denmark</u>
Lincoln	24%	7%	31%	26%	18%
Grant	15	4	19	19	19
Sheridan	12	2	14	9	8
Richland	0	0	0	19	14
Herman	3	0	3	13	18
Blair	3	8	11	12	22
Ft. Calhoun	0	29	29	12	16

<u>Towns</u>	<u>1800</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
	<u>Denmark</u>	<u>Denmark</u>	<u>Denmark</u>
Blair (Ward 4)	NA	19%	17%
Kennard	NA	22	20
Washington	NA	NA	18

Source: U.S. Census. Data recorded for persons age 18 and over by Save America's Heritage, October, 1985.

Lincoln and Grant Precincts consistently had a significant percentage of Danish-born residents. With the addition of Schleswig- and Holstein-born residents, Lincoln Precinct had the highest percentage Danish cultural affiliation in the county. Herman, Blair and Ft. Calhoun Precincts gained in the percentage of Danish-born residents through the censuses studied. It was not determined whether or not this was the result of a second wave of immigration or a mobile population within the U.S. and county. A significant number of Danish-born persons resided in Ward 4 of Blair. In 1900 they comprised 19% of the population compared with 7% for the town as a whole. In 1910 Danish-born persons comprised 17% of the population of Ward 4 compared with 7% for the town as a whole. Kennard and Washington, which were founded at a later date than other towns in the county, contained significant percentages of Danish-born persons. The increases in percentages of Danish-born persons may have been due to increased immigration and a mobile population. An increase in the percentage of Nebraska-born

persons (only those age 18 and over were recorded) suggests children of Danish-born parents were reaching adulthood by 1900 and 1910. It was the expectation of the survey team that evidences of Danish expression would most likely be found in areas with the highest percentages of Danish-born people. It should be noted the majority of the population in Washington County was U.S.-born, even in 1880 and the percentage increases over time. The towns were the most likely to have the highest percentages of U.S.-born persons. See Historic Overview for further elaboration.

Parentages were recorded for U.S.-born persons age 18 and over with mother, father or both parents from Denmark. There were no U.S.-born persons with one or both parents from Denmark recorded in 1880. Blanks in the table below represent no persons were recorded in that particular category. Increasing percentages of Nebraska-born persons of Danish parentage suggests children were reaching adulthood by 1900 and 1910. The data also suggests persons immigrating to the county had not spent considerable time in other areas of the U.S.

Birthplace of U.S.-Born Persons
of Danish Parentage

Region	Both Parents from Denmark				Father from Denmark				Mother from Denmark			
	1900		1910		1900		1910		1900		1910	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North	1	0	2	0	--	--	1	0	--	--	--	--
Mid-Atlantic	3	1	3	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Upland South	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lowland South	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Midwest	12	0	10	0	--	--	2	0	--	--	--	--
Other U.S.	3	4	4	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nebraska	131	8	305	11	19	1	69	2	5	0	18	1

Note: The 1880 census did not list any U.S.-born children over age 18.
The "Other U.S." category is primarily Utah-born and Dakota-born persons.

Source: U.S. Census data as recorded by Save America's Heritage, October, 1985. Only persons age 18 and over were recorded.

Occupations for Danish-born persons were recorded for 1880, 1900 and 1910. In Washington County as a whole, the majority of Danish-born persons were employed in farm related jobs. The correspondingly high category of "other" consists predominantly of listings of "wife." Very few other occupations were listed under this category. Census listings used "none" or "own income" to describe retired persons who have also been included in the "other" category. It appears Danish-born persons were employed in crafts/skilled labor and unskilled labor in rough proportion to their population in the county as a whole. There were very few shopkeeper/merchants or professionals who were Danish-born.

Occupations of Danes in Washington County

	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Farm-related jobs	42%	39%	41%
Unskilled labor	17	8	6
Craftsman/skilled labor	0	7	6
Shopkeeper/merchant	0	1	2
Professional	0	0	1
Other	40	43	44
Total number of people	224	745	806

Source: U.S. Census. Data recorded for persons age 18 and over by Save America's Heritage, October, 1985.

In the "Occupations of Danes In Blair and Washington County" tables, actual numbers of persons recorded was used instead of percentages. In the "Occupations of Danes in Blair," Ward 4 has the highest number of Danes in the various occupations. Again it should be noted that the majority of "others" listed are wives and retired people. Ward 4 in Blair also contains the highest percentage of Danish-born people. Craftsmen/skilled labor and unskilled labor represent the major categories of employment. Ward 2 appears to have been the "better" side of town with the largest and most prominent 19th century houses in Blair. There are fewer Danish-born persons in this Ward in 1900 which supports the evidence in Ward 4 that Danish-born persons tended to be of less high social and economic status than some of their American-born

neighbors. By 1910 there are fewer Danish-born persons in the unskilled labor category which may suggest upward mobility or perhaps just mobility from the area.

Occupations of Danes in Blair

1880 - 2 Shopkeepers

	<u>Ward 1</u>	<u>Ward 2</u>	<u>1900</u> <u>Ward 3</u>	<u>Ward 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
Farm-related jobs	0	1	1	4	6
Unskilled labor	10	2	2	15	29
Craftsman/skilled labor	7	2	2	16	27
Shopkeepers/merchants	1	1	1	2	5
Professional	0	0	0	1	2
Other	18	2	4	35	59
Total	36	8	10	73	126

			<u>1910</u>		
Farm-related jobs	0	1	0	11	12
Unskilled labor	8	3	0	5	16
Craftsman/skilled labor	6	2	3	8	19
Shopkeepers/merchants	2	3	0	3	8
Professional	0	0	1	2	3
Other	13	5	3	41	62
Total	29	14	7	70	120

Source: U.S. Census. Data recorded for persons age 18 and over by Save America's Heritage, October, 1985.

As in Blair figures, Danish-born persons in the "Occupations of Danes in Towns in Washington County" were predominantly seen in the "craftsman/skilled labor" and "unskilled labor" categories. "Farm-related" and "shopkeeper/merchant" categories occupied the second largest numbers of Danes. The "others" category is predominantly wives and retired people.

Occupations of Danes in Towns in Washington County

	<u>Blair</u>	<u>Kennard</u>	<u>Fontanelle</u>	<u>1900</u> <u>Washington</u>	<u>Ft. Calhoun</u>	<u>Arlington</u>	<u>Herman</u>
Farm-related jobs	6	1					
Unskilled labor	29	8			1	2	
Craftsman/ labor	27	6			1		2
Shopkeeper/merchant	5	1				1	
Professional	2	0				1	
Other	59	14	1		2	2	1
Total	126	30	1	NA	4	6	3
				<u>1910</u>			
Farm-related jobs	12	8	3				
Unskilled labor	16	4	1	3			
Craftsman/ labor	19	7				2	5
Shopkeeper/merchant	8	2				1	1
Professional	3	0					
Other	62	19	1	1		4	9
Total	120	40	5	4	NA	7	15

Note: The 1880 census listed only two towns with Danish-born persons in residence: Blair with two and Fontanelle with one.

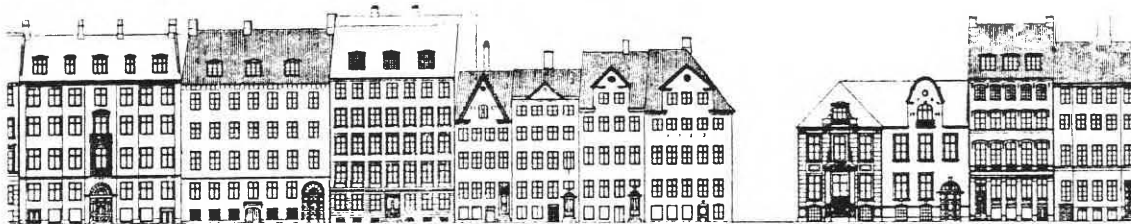
Source: U.S. Census. Data recorded for persons age 18 and over by Save America's Heritage, October, 1985.

A first step in understanding Danish ethnic influences in American architecture is to examine the architecture of Denmark with special note of trends in the early to mid-19th century. The introduction to an article in Architectural Review on the history of Danish domestic architecture described Danish architecture as "remarkable first of all for a simplicity which reflects a stable economy and a comfortable, if not luxurious, way of life, and secondly for a tradition of sound building which has, from time to time, assimilated foreign ideas without surrendering to them" (Fisker, 1948, Vol. 104, No. 623, p. 219).

Numerous stylistic currents shaped the architecture of the 19th century with the academic tradition dominating, due in large part to Ferdinand Meldahl, director of the Academy. It was in Copenhagen and surrounding suburbs and Klampenborg that free (Faber) or liberal

(Millech) historicism, a minor stylistic current at the time, emerged as a major and lasting influence on Danish domestic architecture (Faber, n.d., pp. 120-126; Millech, 1951, pp. 353-354).

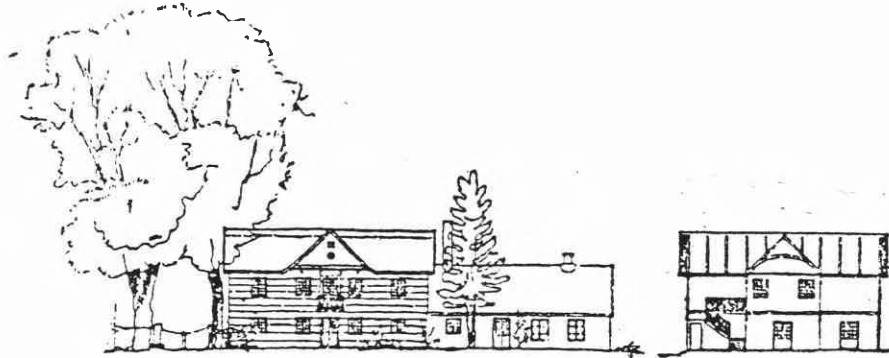
Copenhagen houses were almost exclusively of half-timber with brick infill until the great fire of 1728 when nearly 2,000 homes were destroyed. Because brick houses more successfully withstood the fire, new construction was of brick. Architect Johannes Cornelius Krieger designed three model plans for houses of three stories with gables. These picturesque classical houses were the model for blocks of flats for more than 100 years. The illustration below (1) from Fisker (1949, p. 13) is from a measured drawing of these houses.



III. 1 Typical eighteenth century flat block (from Fisker).

The central gabled wall dormer and more particularly the wide central gabled wall dormer is an architectural motif characteristic of Danish domestic architecture through time. By the middle of the 18th century a more uniform-type flat block based on the ideal of absolutism began to appear. Regulations governed the height of cornices and size of windows which gave the blocks of flats a more unified appearance. The city was struck by a second great fire in 1795 which resulted in new building regulations being instituted. New buildings in the area destroyed by the fire were of the Empire style. They were taller than previous flat blocks. Four story buildings were most common. A small summer house built in 1805 by N. Abildgaard was to have an influence on domestic architecture (see Illustration 2 from Fisker, 1949, p. 17). An artist and architect, Abildgaard painted the artistically valuable wall paintings in his residence. Wall paintings were a common interior

decorative tradition in the houses of the affluent as well as the common people.



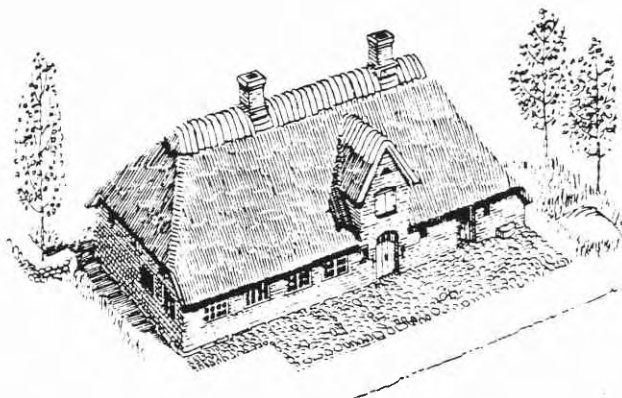
III. 2 Abilgaard House (from Fisker).

With the coming of the industrial revolution and concomitant influx of population, the crowding of the city within its original boundaries became intense. In 1852 the boundaries were released and much new building was begun. In 1867 Copenhagen was declared open and the remaining open space surrounding the city was used for building.

The teachings of Ruskin and William Morris strongly influenced Scandinavian architecture of this time and brought about a renewed interest in fine craftsmanship and construction (Faber, n.d., p. 121; Fisker, 1949, pp. 19-20).

It was during this time mid-century when free (Faber) or liberal (Millech) historicism emerged, gained popularity and remained an influence into the future. Gottlieb Bindesboll, who Faber characterizes as the most original Danish architect of the century, was a major force in this current. Bindesboll sought to connect his current designs with Danish tradition. To each new building he brought a free treatment of tradition to suit that building (Faber, n.d., p. 116).

Bindesboll's collection of cottages at Klampenborg built in 1844 demonstrate English and Danish traditional influences (see Illustration 3 left, from Uldall, 1980, n.p.). These romantic cottages are similar to traditional rural house forms in proportion, gabled roof, overpowering roof with overhanging eaves, use of central gabled wall dormer. The example in Illustration 3 right from Fisker (1949, p. 19) is characterized by an overhanging bargeboard roof and non-rectangular form.



Traditional rural house (from Uldall).

III. 3



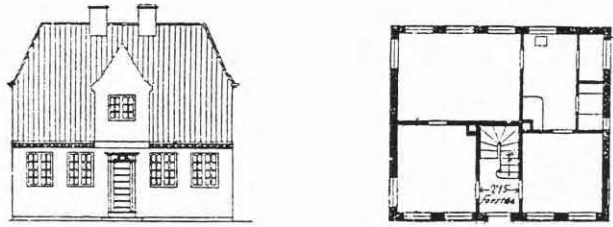
House at Klampenborg
(from Fisker).

J. D. Herholdt carried on Bindesboll's ideals especially with respect to the small houses he designed. Herholdt had a well-developed sense of construction and believed in harmony between construction and design. He cultivated the visual effects of genuine materials and the unadorned facade was a dominant feature of his work (Faber, n.d., p. 134).

Later in the century Nyrop, who gave rise to the new romantic tradition which carried on free historicism, wished not to copy old buildings but lend a new spiritual content harmonious with old traditions (Faber, n.d., p. 134).

Around the turn of the century there was an effort to revive the Bindesboll-Herholdt traditions. In the suburbs surrounding Copenhagen the descendants of the English Bindesboll-Herholdt tradition can be seen. These are characterized by a large overhanging bargeboarded roof with wooden windows. The houses are of brick construction (Fisker, 1949, p. 19).

A second type of house found in the Copenhagen suburbs has origins which can be traced back to the flat buildings built after the fire of 1728. This firm, regular house type with a high roof was of such inconspicuous character it was able to survive all through the popularity of the Empire style and the whole of the 19th century (see Illustration 4 from Fisker, 1949, p. 18).



III. 4 Fisker's second type house from Copenhagen suburbs.

These simple houses possess design motifs which would later become apparent in the Danish-American architecture of the United States.

Danish Farm Houses

Near the end of the 18th century, four-fifths of the Danish population were still peasants. Their farms clustered together around the village church and pond. The land was divided into fields, which in turn were divided into plots which were subdivided into long narrow strips. This way land was equitably distributed with each farmer having some of the good soil and some of the poorer.

In 1788 serfdom was abolished so that peasants could settle where they wished. From other land reform laws came the parcelling out of land so steadings could be sited on their land. A new star-shaped plan evolved with some farmers remaining in the village while others moved



III. 5

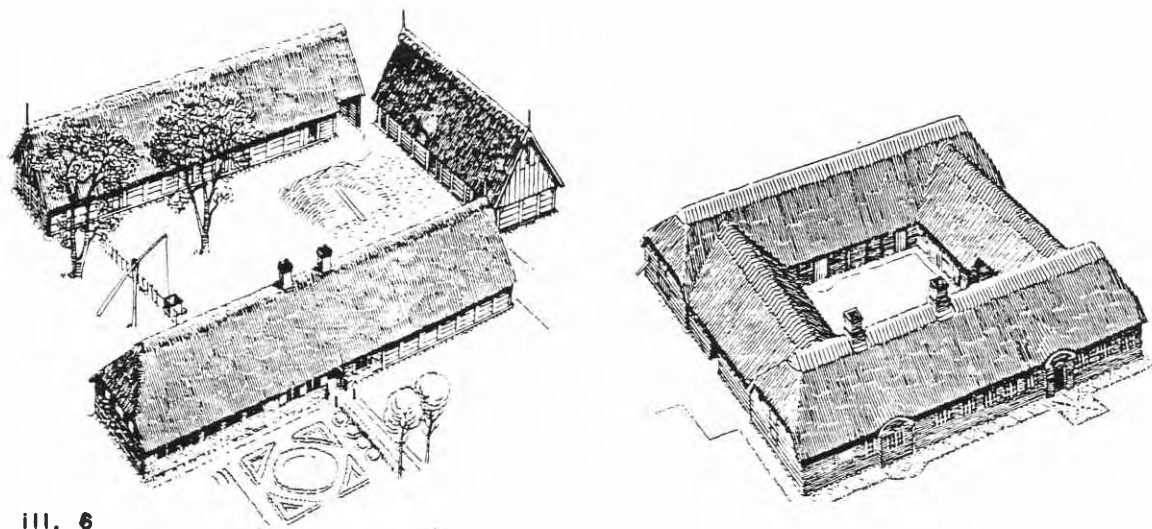
Village cluster.

Strip Parcels.

Star-shaped plan.

out to their land (see Illustration 5 from Jensen, 1977, p. 211). The change was revolutionary for the farmers as well as for the Danish landscape. After the land reforms another change occurred on the farmstead. Buildings situated around the courtyard were connected at

the corners to form what is now our vision of the Danish farmstead (see Illustration 6 from Uldall, 1980, n.p.) (Skrubbeltrang, 1953, pp. 60-61; Farber, n.d., pp. 98-106).



iii. 6

Open courtyard farmstead.

Closed courtyard farmstead.

The buildings were usually half-timbered with gradual change to brick as time went on. Granite farm buildings began to be built after 1850. Interiors of houses often had stenciling or paintings on the plaster walls. The interior of the closed courtyard farmstead in Illustration 6 has such stenciling. Walls were often whitewashed inside and out (Uldall, 1980, n.p.).

Signe Betsinger's study of Danish-American houses in Iowa is one of the few works on Danish ethnic influence in the architecture of this area. Betsinger's study is concerned with the Danish design influences in or near the town of Kimballton, Iowa in the southwestern part of the state. Her study described three periods--1874-1890, 1891-1907 and 1908-1918. With the exception of NeHBS data, especially HW05 and HM04, it was the only available source for information on Danish-American architecture.

"The major characteristics of Danish influence in the shape of the early house (1874-1890) in the Kimballton (Iowa) area was use of the rectangular form and symmetrical arrangement of architectural features on the exterior which included a central dormer" (Betsinger, 1970, p. 112). Immigrants of the time would have been familiar with Danish architecture until the time of their emigration. The low rectangular

one-story house was common in Denmark in the 1880's. In cities and towns the house was usually free-standing and on the farms usually connected with the barn in the rectangular courtyard arrangement.

Betsinger reports the courtyard arrangement was not used in Kimballton. The Danish immigrants tended to build small houses emphasizing the horizontal and large barns. The houses tended to be finely crafted and simply constructed. Exterior decoration to relieve the stark rectangular exterior usually appeared in two or three places: 1) over doors and windows, 2) on doors, and 3) on porches.

On the interior, walls were often whitewashed in first sod houses or more rarely later wood houses. Wainscoting was sometimes used in the kitchen and living room with wood-grained enamel paint. Painting of ceiling and walls in floral or marble patterns was common. Wall painting has a long history in Denmark where traveling painters went from village to village. Painting was used in small as well as large houses such as Abildgaard's (Betsinger, 1970, pp. 112-117).

After 1890 larger houses appeared in the Kimballton area. Betsinger speculates that after being there for about 15 years, people were able to save up enough money to build a larger house or perhaps the size of the family increased to the point a new house was necessary. Even though these homes were large, considerably larger ones were built in the succeeding years.

From 1890 to 1907 Betsinger found some retention of the rectangular house form with symmetrically placed openings; however, there was a strong tendency to depart from this. The level of craftsmanship remained high in this period. The addition of bay windows and double doors are seen on plans. Double doors were placed between parlor and bedroom or dining and living room.

Applied decoration on the exterior are characterized decorative shingles on the wall, shutters, a painted band around the house between first and second stories. Stained glass windows particularly in the bay windows came into use. Classic details began to be used on porches during this period (Betsinger, 1970, pp. 163-169).

On the interior wainscoting continued to be used. Some walls continued to be painted with geometric, floral, angel, sky and cloud motifs, and wood graining continued to be used.

In the final period of Betsinger's study, from 1908-1918, houses built in the Kimballton area contained a generous amount of space, larger still than the two preceding periods. There are larger rooms and more rooms per house. Even in cases where rooms were not larger, ceiling heights increased to give a feeling of spaciousness. Closets and hallways with doors leading in to separate rooms began to be included in house plans. Double doors were present in most homes built during this period. Bathrooms were part of the original plans as well as central heating systems. Foundation materials were changing from field stone to brick. Factory-made wood details began to appear but generally there was less emphasis on elaborate decoration.

Interior wall surfaces were most often wallpapered. Plate rails, which were used in many Danish farmhouses began to appear. Betsinger concludes they probably were not used in earlier houses for lack of anything to display.

Betsinger concludes, common to all houses from the 1870's to 1918 was the orientation. In towns, houses faced the street and on the farm houses faced the road although most farm lanes brought people to the back door.

Craftsmanship remained of high quality throughout the period. Danish design influences appeared to a certain extent in the exterior of early houses in the Kimballton area but by about 1890 there was little influence of those building practices. The interiors and home furnishings retained more Danish characteristics (Betsinger, 1970, pp. 97-201).

In selecting the architectural design motifs both Danish and Danish-American sources were consulted. Steeply-pitched roofs were noted in NeHBS data and in photographs of Danish architecture. The wall dormer, particularly the entry wall dormer, has been prominent in Danish architecture for several hundred years and is often seen in Danish-American houses (NeHBS, HWO4; Betsinger, 1970, p. 112). The jerkinhead roof seems to be more prevalent in rural Danish farm buildings than in

more urban settings. It is fairly common in Danish-American buildings (NeHBS). The integrated porch appears to be more an American motif. Porches were absent from sources used to prepare the Danish portion of the context. "Romantic" details are very prevalent in Danish-American buildings (NeHBS, HWO4 and HMO5). They tend to be delicate and finely crafted. After the turn of the 20th century, Fisker describes the presence of bargeboards on Danish houses (Fisker, 1949, p. 19).

Existing Information

Census data is the only primary source used for preparation of this report. Recording such data is labor intensive, therefore, clearly defined parameters are imperative.

The secondary sources used in preparation of the section on Danish architecture included the standard Tobias Faber History of Danish Architecture. It gives a chronological overview and includes a limited amount of information on Danish farmhouses. Fisker's History of Domestic Architecture in Denmark was especially helpful in identifying motifs. This work was also very useful for the evolution of house types in Denmark. Millech deals with the architecture of Denmark between 1850 and 1950, a time of relevance for the preparation of the context. It is comprehensive and well illustrated. Unfortunately, the text is in Danish with only brief summaries in English. Frilandsmuseet, the guide book to the Open-Air Museum prepared by the Danish National Museum, is a valuable source on rural houses and farm buildings.

Betsinger's thesis on Danish design influences in several eastern Iowa houses has been valuable for the Danish-American section of the report. Site files and photo cards from the existing NeHBS files (particularly HWO4 Dannebrog and HMO5 Kronborg) represent more "pieces" of the overall picture and were useful in defining motifs used in the reconnaissance survey.

Many available materials are published in Danish and were of limited use except for photos and plans. It would have been a distinct advantage to have translations available.

Occupations as Grouped on Data Sheets

Farm-related jobs

Farmer, farm laborer, retired farmer

Unskilled laborer

General laborer, janitor, servant, housekeeper, house maid, brick yard burner, retired laborer, wagon driver, laundress, laundry man, drayman

Craftsmen/skilled laborer

Blacksmith, painter, carpenter, contractor, cream buyer, dress maker, cook, stock buyer, stenographer, restaurant keeper, harness repair, dry goods, railroad foreman, waiter, printer, butcher, paper hanger, shoemaker, photographer, livery, compositor, grocery, seamstress, well-digger, tailor, gardener, real estate proprietor, book binder, watch maker, fisherman, brick mason

Merchants/Shopkeepers

Retail merchant, implement dealer, salesman, grocery merchant, nursery salesman clerk, manager publishing house, bartender, editor, manager public house, general merchandise

Professional

Professor, school teacher, preacher, dentist

Other

Student, wife, none, capitalist, own income, landlord-lady, treasurer Lutheran Church, keeping house

Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

Preliminary Inventory of Danish-American Properties

This preliminary inventory is a list of sites that appear to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the Danish-American Influences context.

Prior to reconnaissance survey, Danish and Danish-American design motifs were researched in books and NeHBS survey documentation and delineated. It was the goal of the reconnaissance survey to identify buildings whose design characteristics pointed to Danish cultural associations with no prior information on the building's history. The larger number of Germans in the county whose buildings share some of the same motifs complicated this task.

It was hypothesized that houses, farm buildings, churches, and halls might display the following motifs: steeply-pitched roof, wall dormer or entry wall dormer, integrated porch, jerkinhead roof, or "romantic" details in wood such as elaborate cornice moldings, barge-boards, window moldings, porch details or door details.

Sites listed in the preliminary inventory were derived through a multi-stepped evaluation process which took place subsequent to the reconnaissance-level survey. A number of sites which may have Danish cultural associations were identified as a result of the reconnaissance phase.

The survey staff conducted evaluational meetings to determine which sites appear to be potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP. All sites identified as possibly Danish were compared within the framework of the preliminary historic context. The sites contained in the preliminary inventory were judged to exhibit characteristics identified as possibly Danish, in addition to appearing to be architecturally significant as well as retaining a high degree of integrity. A total of eight sites appear to be potentially eligible for NRHP listing within the context. Additional research on the 16 remaining sites will be required to determine whether or not they would be NRHP-eligible under the Danish-American context. This information would be of additional use in testing the hypothesis regarding the presence of certain design motifs as indicators of Danish cultural associations. Site cards and

site files located in the Nebraska State Historical Society Preservation Office contain additional information on all sites included in the preliminary inventory.

Intensive level survey was performed on a small sample of sites to obtain further data to test the survey hypotheses. The sample of sites selected for intensive-level research was small. This was primarily due to time and economic restraints. Sites selected for possible inclusion in the intensive-level survey were evaluated by a site inspection after the initial evaluation. Sites were compared to reveal which would yield the most information as a test of the survey hypotheses (see Research Design). As a result of the selection process, six sites were chosen as possibly Danish-American due to the presence of these design motifs and all proved to be associated with Danes. Three more were Intensive Livestock sites with Danish associations. Four other sites were selected as possibly Danish-American, but with negative results.

Few generalizations can be made from this small sample and findings should be viewed primarily as preliminary data. As more data is gathered, perhaps a clearer picture of possible Danish ethnic influences in the vernacular architecture will be revealed in the county. The intensive-level survey data follows.

Intensively Researched Sites Strongly Suggested for NRHP Listing:

- WN00-121: Benhart Gottsch farmstead (see Intensive Data-NNILP)
- WN00-158: George Kuhr farmstead (see Intensive Data-NNILP)
- WN00-229: John Hansen farmstead (see Intensive Data-NNILP)
- WN02-64: Hansen-Jensen house (see Intensive Data)
- WN02-86: Rufus Claar house (see Intensive Data)
- WN05-22: Nicholas Rix house (see Intensive Data)
- WN07-13: Peter Jeppesen house (see Intensive Data)
- WN00-115: Lars Hansen farmstead (see Intensive Data)

Post-Intensive Inventory of Other Potentially Eligible Sites:

Town Dwellings:

WN01-8	WN02-80	WN05-7	WN07-26
WN01-27	WN02-108	WN05-23	
WN02-54	WN02-111	WN07-15	

Rural Dwellings:

WN00-64	WN00-79
WN00-72	WN00-116
WN00-75	WN00-239

Summary of Danish-American Intensive Properties

Danish Ethnic Influences

In the past, the approach to discussions of ethnic influences in architecture has been to describe individual buildings known to be built by a particular ethnic group. Betsinger does this in her thesis on Danish design influences in a southwestern Iowa community. Other information has come from biographical sources such as Nielsen's Life in an American Denmark. In all cases individual buildings are described with minimal conclusions drawn.

The approach taken in this survey was quite different. Danish and Danish-American design motifs were researched in books and NeHBS survey documentation and delineated. It was the goal of the reconnaissance survey to identify buildings whose design characteristics pointed to Danish cultural associations with no prior information on the building's history. The larger number of Germans in the county whose buildings share some of the same motifs complicated this task.

It was hypothesized that houses, farm buildings, churches, and halls might display the following motifs: steeply-pitched roof, wall dormer or entry wall dormer, integrated porch, jerkinhead roof, or "romantic" details in wood such as elaborate cornice moldings, bargeboards, window moldings, porch details or door details.

The following six sites were chosen as possibly Danish due to the presence of these design motifs and all proved to be associated with Danes. Three more were Intensive Livestock sites with Danish associations. Four sites were selected as possibly Danish but turned out not to be.

The presence of two or more of these motifs seemed to be a better indicator of Danish cultural associations than one. The steeply-pitched gable roof similar to sites in Dannebrog and the presence of a central gabled wall dormer over the entry were the major reasons the Rufus Claar house (WN02-86) was selected. The central gabled wall dormer over the entry and the lathework bargeboards were motifs present on the Peter Jeppeson house (WN07-13). The huge central wall dormer over the entry and the hand-cut sawtooth molding along the fascia which is similar to detail on Howard County Danish-American houses were motifs which

indicated inclusion of the H. J. Hansen house (WNO2-64). The Lars Hansen farmstead (WNO0-115) was selected due to the presence of a large central wall dormer over the entry and the sawtooth appearance of brick corbeling detail. This house is unusual in that it was constructed of brick, a common material used in Danish houses, but less common in Nebraska. All the above sites possessed a large central gabled wall dormer which is quite a common motif in both rural and urban houses of the 19th century in Denmark.

The Nicholas Rix house and carriage barn (WNO5-22) were selected due to the presence of the profusion of romantic detail on the house and the two-story projecting human entry--a form reminiscent of gabled central wall dormers on the carriage barn.

The final site is of lesser importance to the survey due to its lack of integrity.

The sites identified as Danish were not, in general, found in the precincts and towns with the very highest percentages of Danes. One site (WNO2-64) was in Ward 4 of Blair, the ward with the highest percentage of Danes. The other Blair site (WNO2-86) was in the "richer" area of Blair with a much smaller percentage of Danish residents. The Fort Calhoun site (WNO5-22) is not located in a town previously predicted as a likely location for Danish houses. Richland Precinct, including the town of Kennard, ranked moderately high in the percentage of Danish residents and three sites (WNO7-13, WNO0-115, WNO0-114) are located there.

The following sites were not part of the intensive survey but were found to have Danish cultural associations as hypothesized in the Research Design. The only Danish church surveyed was the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Orum (WNO0-159) which was organized by Danes in the 1890's.

Danes, in Denmark and to a lesser extent in the U.S., were active in the cooperative movement. The Herman Elevator Cooperative, now known as the Holmquist Lumber and Grain Company Elevator (WNO6-28), was organized in 1919. Danish persons were original major office holders who served along with those of other European descent.

There were a number of chapters of the Danish Brotherhood in the county. No halls specifically for that purpose were surveyed and it is presumed meetings were held in the upper story of commercial buildings or other locations.

No information was gained on the presence of painted interiors in houses or connected housebarns in the county, although personnel from preservation and historical organizations were consulted.

The "front" gable wall dormer is a decorative feature employed repeatedly in what are believed to be Danish-built houses. The gable wall dormers are consistently placed in the center of the "front" facade above a main level entry and usually contain a walk-out. The majority of the walk-outs have since been removed or are not in use. Variances in the wall dormer include two distinct types of gable roof pitches--those that are shallow (WNO7-13, WNOO-115) and those that are thought to be more characteristically Danish, the very steep gable (see illustration below). The shallow gable wall dormer differs from the steep in that the plane of the wall that becomes the dormer extends up further thus breaking the eave line. The steep gable wall dormer actually uses the existing eave line in a continuous manner, incorporating the eave line into its steep upward pitch. In the case of the steep gable then, the vertical extension of the front wall plane is totally contained within the triangle shape of the dormer. (See illustrations A & B)

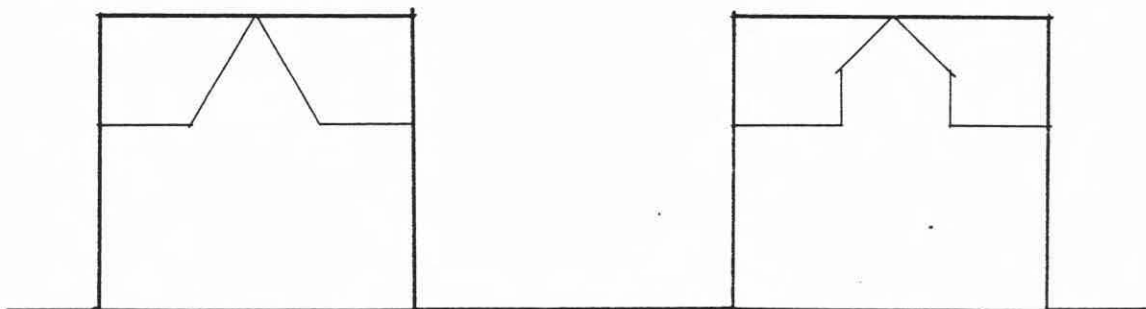


Illustration A

Illustration B

WN02-64

The Hansen-Jensen House



Architectural Description

The Hansen-Jensen house is comprised of a T-shaped core with enclosed porches on each side of the rear-projecting stem. Sheathed in clapboard and constructed of wood frame dimensional lumber, the one and one-half story core is protected with a gable roof. The Hansen-Jensen house exhibits the familiar Danish use of a gable wall dormer with walk-out above a main-level entry. In this case, the front porch has been removed. Other decorative features include the south-facing bay and the gable wall dormers located on the stem. A subtle yet highly Danish decorative feature are the sawtooth moldings bordering the fascia's and purportedly hand-sawn by Johannes Jensen. Original side porches with access into the stem have now been enclosed and lack some degree of integrity. The "cross" of the T measures 8.8 m by 4.9 m and the stem measures 3.7 m by 5.0 m. The house is believed to have been constructed in 1906 and with the exception of the porch enclosures, the original plan retains it's integrity. The plan consists of a main entry into a front room with an adjacent parlor to the north. The stem of the T located to the west then contained the kitchen. The staircase was placed behind the west parlor way and was accessed off the northwest porch, through a hall to the kitchen or via the parlor. The house is located in latitudinal orientation to the street and along with a large garage to the west, constitutes the two contributing buildings of the site.



Historical Summary

H. J. Hansen was born in Denmark in 1872. Prior to his 28th birthday, H. J. emigrated to Washington County, Nebraska and later became a citizen of the United States. In the early years, H. J. spent most of his time working on various farms and getting established. By the spring of 1906 he was able to obtain a warranty deed and later a mortgage on a lot in Blair's Sixth Addition.

On his lot in Blair, H. J. built a house for his wife and daughter. Construction of their home was performed by Johannes Jensen and H. J. Hansen himself. It is said that H. J. would sit on the front porch during the evening and cut gingerbread boards, to be used in the decorative trim, by hand. During the early years of settlement in Blair, people who lived on the outskirts were able to build a home and still farm some on the land bordering their home. H. J. Hansen was in such a position and did practice minimal farming this way.

The H. J. Hansen family continued to live in the home until 1906 when Johannes Jensen and his wife, the daughter of H. J., obtained ownership. Currently, Elmer and Emma Hansen reside here and have kept the home in very good condition.

Danish-American Influences

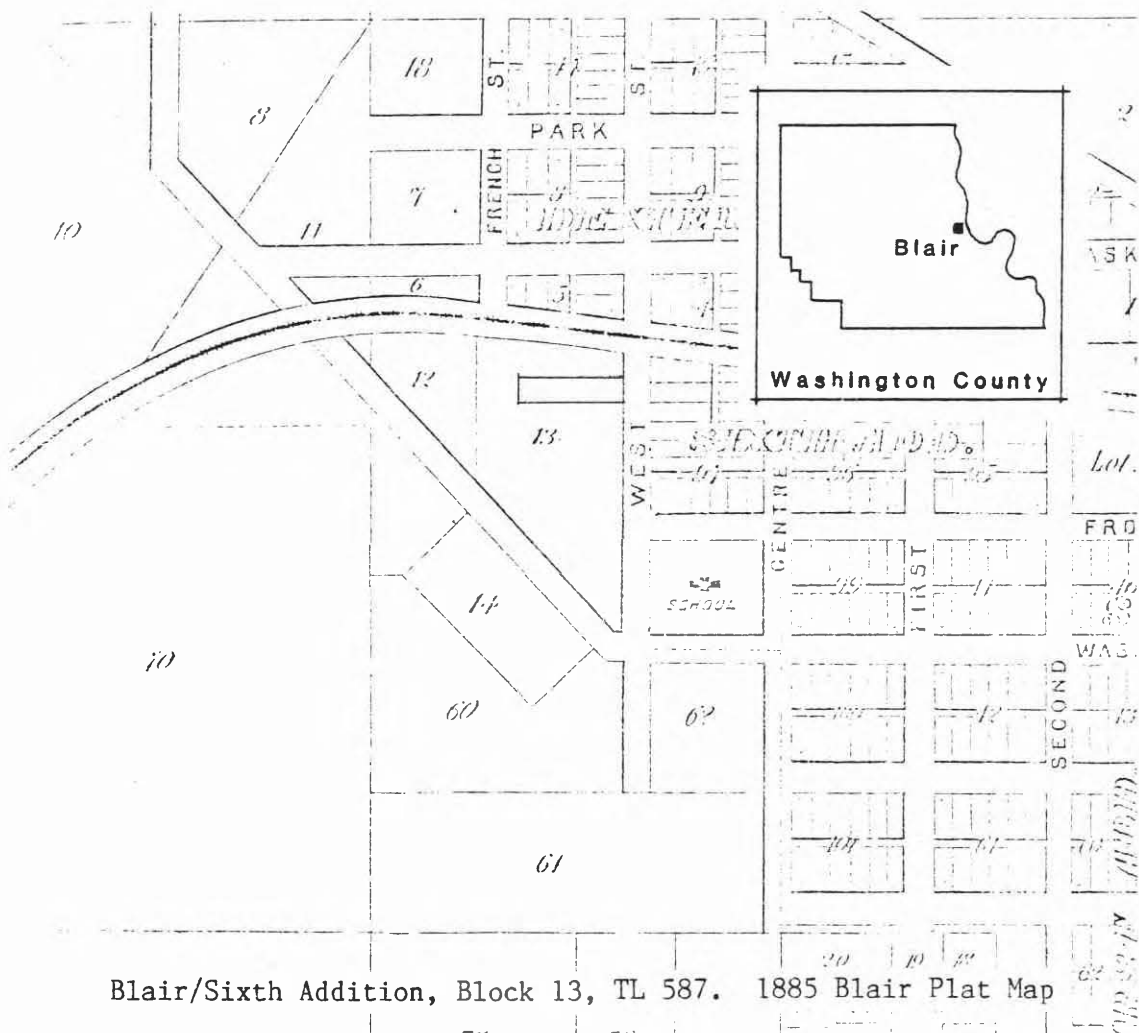
WN02-64

The Hansen-Jensen House

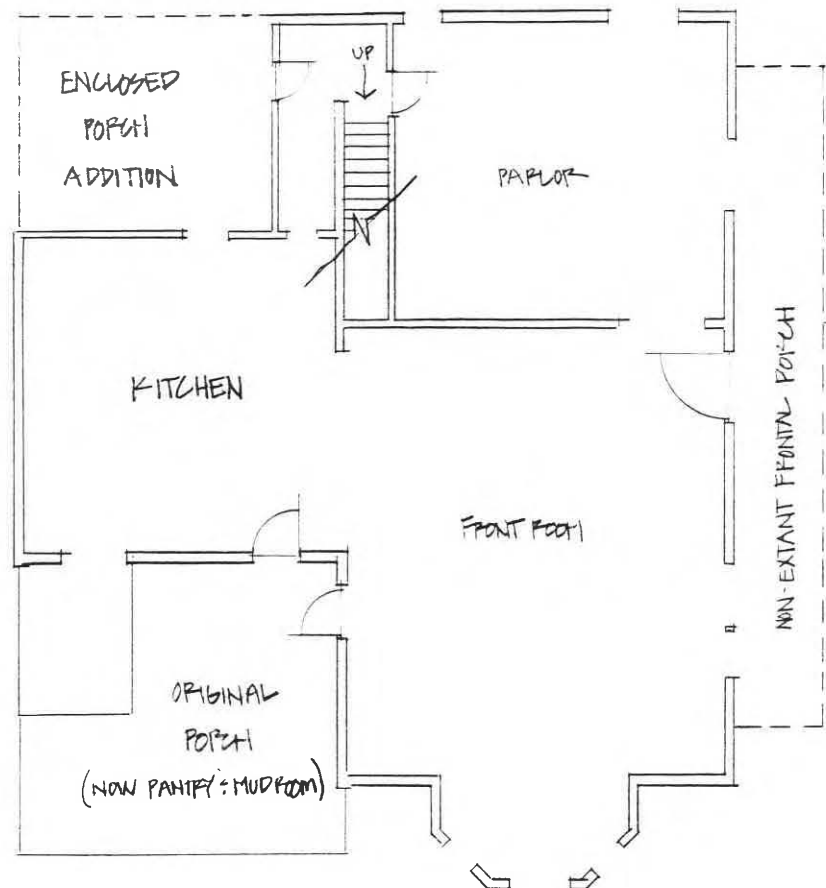
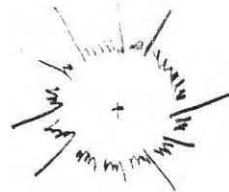
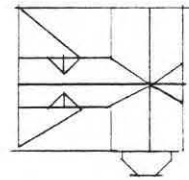
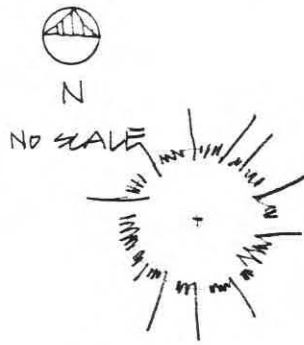
Relation to Historic Context

This house was chosen as possibly Danish due to symmetrical facade with the huge central gabled wall dormer over the entry, and romantic detail including hand-cut sawtooth molding along the fascia which is similar to detail found in Danish-American houses in Dannebrog. Research on the property revealed the original owner to be from Denmark.

Town Location



WNOZ-64: DANISH
HANSEN - JENSEN HOUSE
NCHES: WASHINGTON CO.
MARCH 9, 1986
DRAWN BY: J. KAY



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

WN02-86

The Rufus Claar House



Architectural Description

The Claar house consists of a one and one-half story rectangular-shaped core with a one-story rear wing and frontal porch. The house has suffered later additions of ancillary elements such as a corner bay and one-room addition between the wing and rear west core end and the enclosing of a porch on the rear east core end. The core and wing are covered with gable roofs and are oriented in a latitudinal manner in respect to Grant Street. Constructed of wood frame dimensional lumber and sheathed in clapboard, the Claar house exhibits the familiar Danish domestic element of the steep gable wall dormer above a main-level entry. However, other than this and the later bay addition, the house exhibits no other additional decorative elements. The rectangular core itself measures 9.5 m by 6.6 m and the south-extending one-story wing measures 4.1 m by 5.1 m. Believed to be constructed in the early 1880's, the original plan of the house has been altered by the above mentioned additions to the rectangular core and therefore lacks a certain degree of integrity. However, upon visual inspection, the original plan appears to have consisted of a central stairway with single adjacent side rooms and a single room occupying the rear wing. The main entry is placed slightly off-center to the east with the central stairs then placed slightly off-axis to the east of the entry. A square wood frame garage measuring 6.7 m by 6.7 m and capped with a pyramidal hipped roof contributes to the aesthetics of the site.



Historical Summary

Born in 1849, Rufus Claar was raised in Ohio and made his home there until 1879. At age 30, Rufus decided to give up his business practice as a stock dealer in Ohio; the lure of new western settlements attracting him as it did so many others.

In 1879 Rufus left his native Ohio and took his wife and daughter to a new beginning in Washington County, Nebraska. Later the same year, Rufus and his family bought a lot in the city of Blair and built a home there early the following year. Located on Grant Street, their home was built very near the old courthouse and close to the Blair business district.

The Claar family continued to live in Blair for the next 24 years as Rufus eventually returned to business in the area of stock dealing. In 1904 Rufus passed away and the estate left to his heirs. In 1920 the title went to Alma Claar and later the same year sold it to Hugo Hock, ending 40 years of family ownership. Tim and V. C. Engelke currently live in the home.

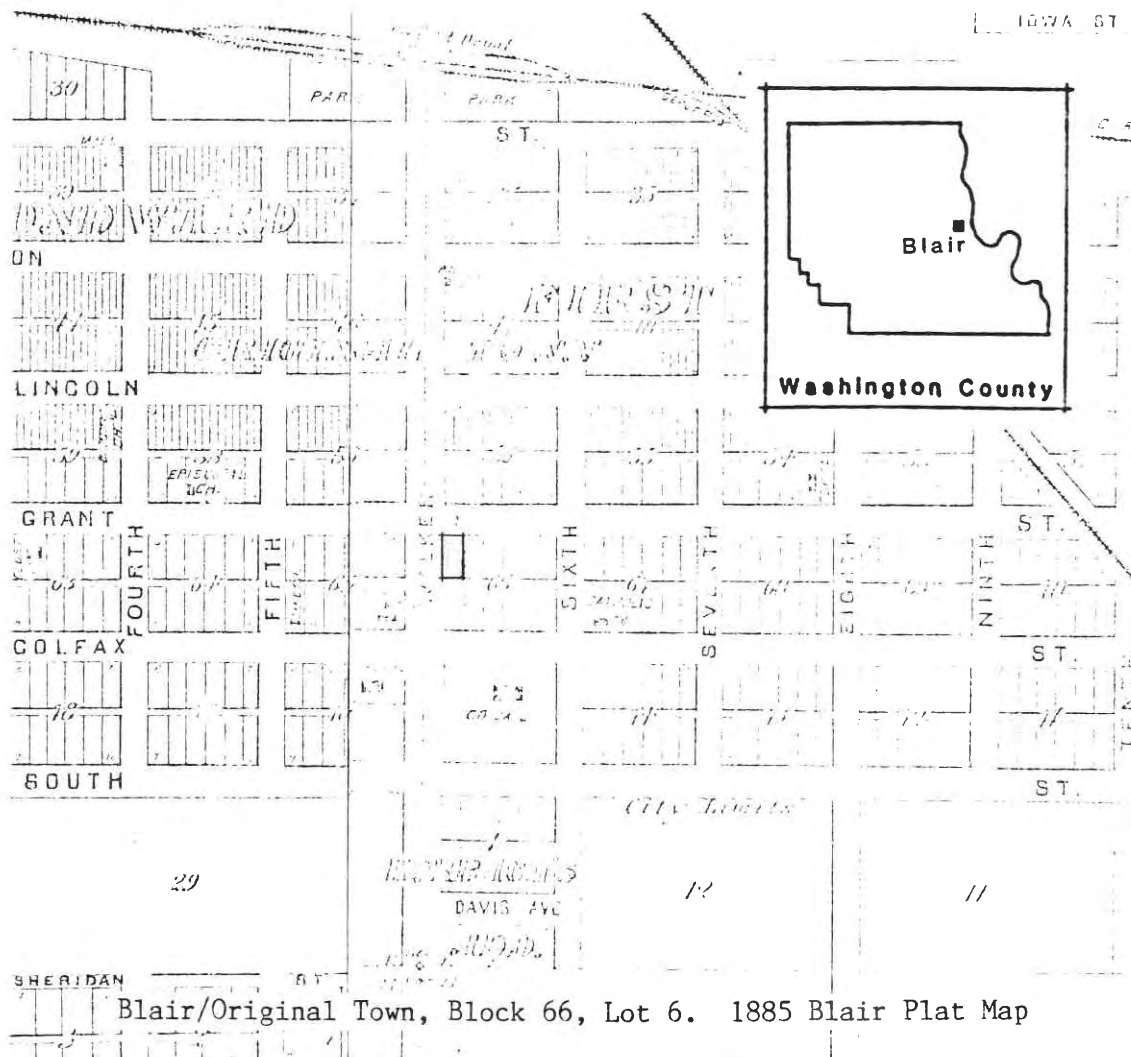
WN02-86

The Rufus Claar House

Relation to Historic Context

This house was chosen as possibly Danish due to the symmetrical facade, the central gabled wall dormer over the entry, and the steeply pitched roof similar to some of the Danish-American houses in Dannebrog. There was an absence of romantic detail. Research on the property revealed the original owner to be from the U.S.

Town Location



WNOZ-86: RUFUS CLAPP
HOUSE

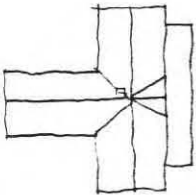
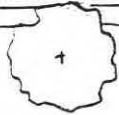
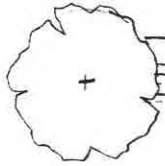
NEHBS: WASHINGTON CO.

MARCH 20, 1886

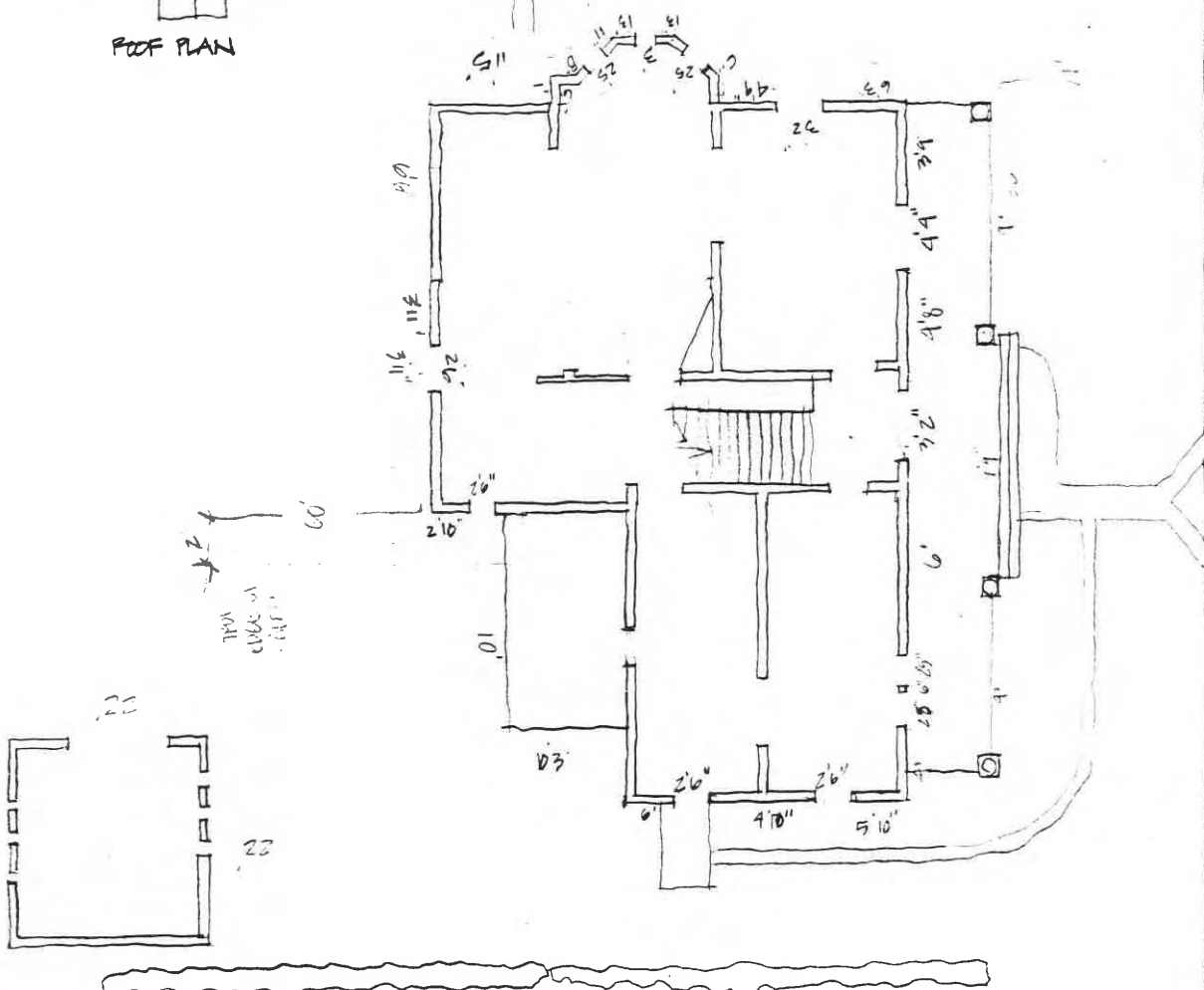
DRAWN BY: J. KAY
L. HABERMAN



N NO SCALE
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



ROOF PLAN



GRANT ST

WN05-22 The Nicholas Rix House



Architectural Description

With one major exception, the core shape of the Nicholas Rix house could be classified as T-shaped. However, the confusion arises with the existence of an equal height wing projecting off of the cross of the T. The consideration of this wing which itself is not an addition, despite others, forces us to reclassify the core shape of this house as irregular. The later addition which further confuses the analysis is attached perpendicular to this "non-conforming" wing and runs parallel to the cross of the T. Despite the confusion in supratypological analysis, several characteristics of the Rix house can be discerned and these are: the one and one-half story building is constructed of wood frame with the cross of the T measuring 9.1 m by 5.2 m. The south-projecting wing measures 4.4 m by 3.6 m and the "non-conforming" north wing measures 4.3 m by 4.9 m. The core shape is protected by a gable roof and decorated on the west by a large semicircular lathework bargeboard. Other decorated bargeboards appear on the north, south and east gables. A box oriel window is centrally placed on the west wall directly below a narrow gable wall dormer. The house purportedly was built in 1902 but unfortunately exhibits a general lack of integrity on the interior and in the replacement of the original clapboard sheathing.



Historical Summary

Nicholas Rix was 21 when he immigrated from Neumunster in Schleswig-Holstein to America in 1852. He married Maria Hagedorn on February 22, 1856 in Comanche, Iowa--she too a Schleswig-Holstein. In 1857 they set out in covered wagons to cross Iowa and settled in Washington County, Nebraska later that same year.

The couple first settled near Fort Calhoun and after 11 years moved to a larger farm on Deer Creek near Coffman Station. During the next 33 years they farmed and raised stock on their farm. Also during this time, Nicholas served as a high school director for 32 years. At age 71, Nicholas and Maria moved back to Fort Calhoun and built a house with his nephew, Henry Rix, in 1902.

The Rix house was built on a town block and took on the appearance of a farm in miniature. Although deed records show only Henry Rix with a deed to the property, it is believed that Nicholas did in fact have the house built in 1902 but with the intention of passing it on to Henry upon his death. It also was not uncommon for elder family members to be cared for by their children. It is not known who did the carpentry work on the house, an excellent example of Gothic-revival; however, both Nicholas and Henry were experienced carpenters.

Maria Rix passed away in 1907, just one year after celebrating their 50th anniversary in their new home. Nicholas Rix died in 1918 at which time Henry Rix became the rightful heir.

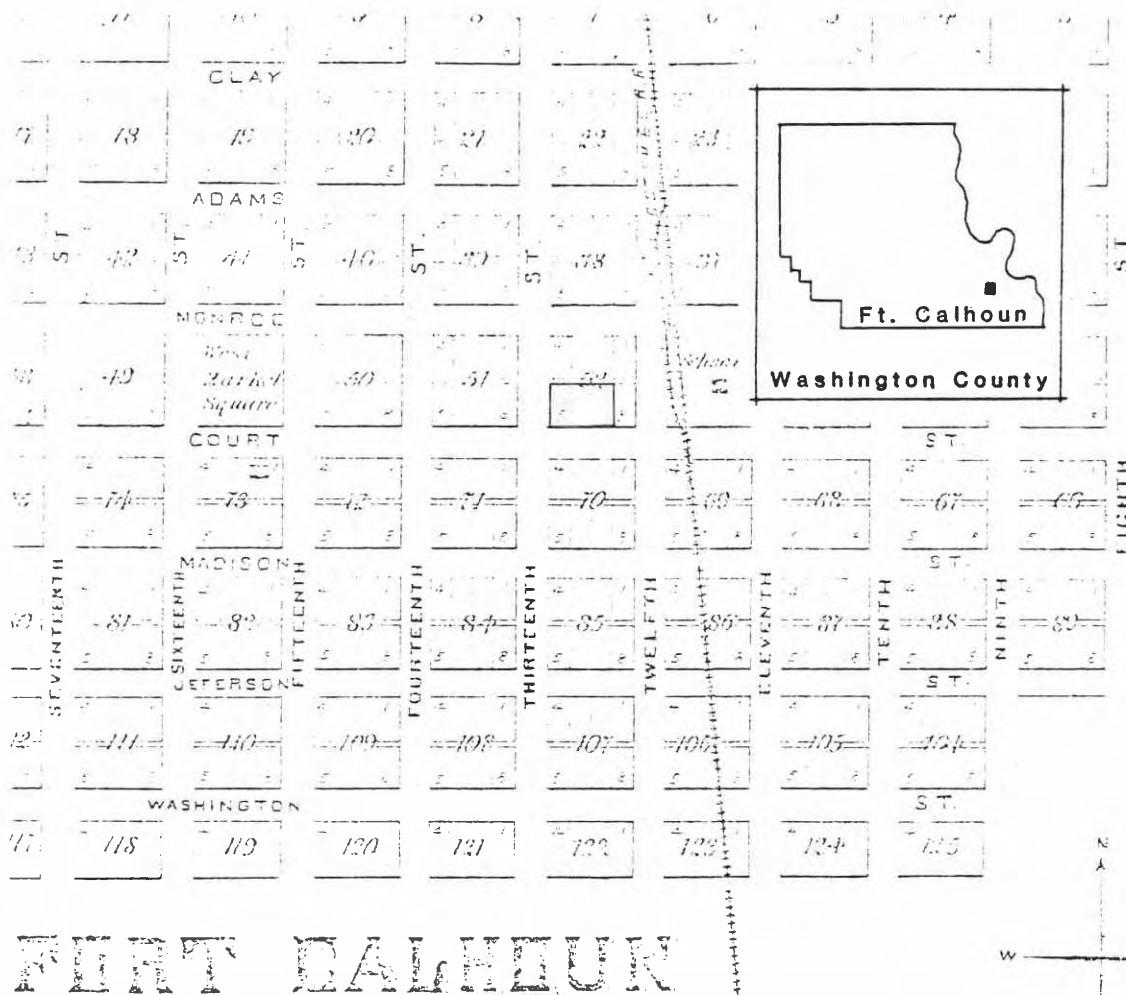
Danish-American Influences

WN05-22 The Nicholas Rix House

Relation to Historic Context

The house and carriage barn were chosen as possibly Danish due to the profusion of romantic detail on both house and carriage barn. Intricate bargeboards in gables and eastlake porches are examples of the romantic detail in the house. Carriage barn has a two-story projecting human entry with gabled roof--a form reminiscent of the gabled central wall dormers on houses. Research on the property revealed the original owner to be from Schleswig, an area of Germany with cultural associations with Denmark.

Town Location



Fort Calhoun/Original Town, Block 52, Lots 5-6, 1885 Ft. Calhoun Plat

WNOS-22: NICHOLAS RIX HOUSE

WASHINGTON SO. HISTORIC EMBL REPORT

MARCH 6, 1986

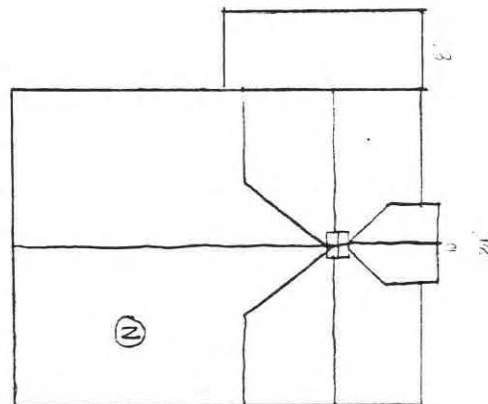
DRAWN BY: JOHN KAY
WIFE: HAREPLAN

SITE PLAN
(NO INTERIOR ACCESS)

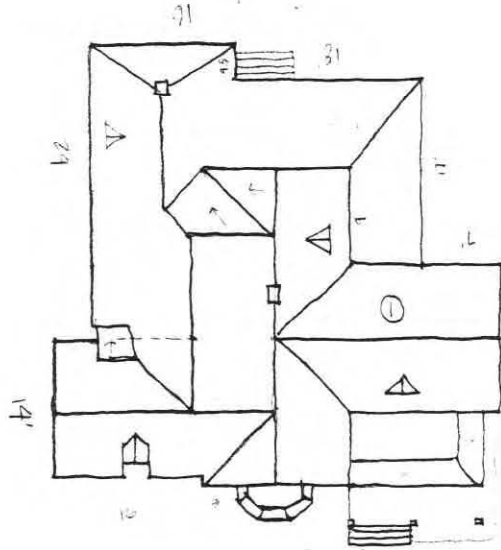
LEGEND:

1. HOUSE

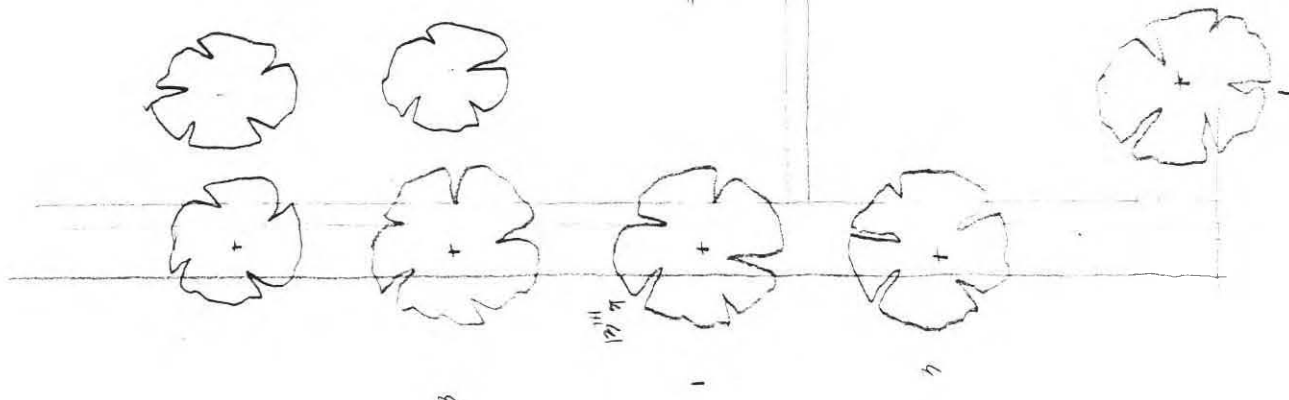
2. CARRIAGE BARN



NO SCALE



NO SCALE



WN07-13 The Peter Jeppesen House



Architectural Description

The Peter Jeppesen house is a rectangular core-shaped house, one and one-half stories in height and covered by a gable roof. Ancillary elements found on the house include a hipped roof front porch and an offset one-story wing projecting from the back of the core. The rectangular core measures 8.5 m by 4.5 m with the one-story wing measuring 6.1 m by 5.5 m. The house is placed in latitudinal orientation on the west side of Main Street. The house was constructed using a wood frame and sheathed in clapboard. The main decorative element of the house is the front gable wall dormer which is a feature employed repeatedly in what are believed to be Danish-built houses. The gable wall dormers are consistently placed in the center of the "front" facade above a main level entry and usually contained a walk-out. The majority of the walk-outs have since been removed or are not in use. In this case, the walk-out is extant, but is not used by the current owners. Decorative scroll and lathework is found at the bargeboards of the entry wall dormer as well as the south and north ends of the core.

Purportedly built about 1895, the Jeppesen house still retains the original wall division of the first and second level plans. The main level consists of a simple two-room with central stairs plan. The main entry is centrally located and enters onto the back of the boxed central stairs with front room to the left and parlor to the right. The boxed stairs are accessed off of the front room with bedrooms located on the second level. The rear one-story wing contains the kitchen and added bathroom spaces.



Historical Summary

Peter Jeppesen was born in Denmark in 1831 during the month of January. His parents were also born in Denmark. In 1872, at the age of 41, Peter and Poline Jensen Jeppesen emigrated to America from their native Denmark and came to settle briefly in the city of Omaha, Nebraska. Eventually, the Jeppesen's bought a farm 2 1/2 miles northwest of Kennard and settled down to a life of farming. During these years, four children were born into the Jeppesen family. Only one son and a daughter lived past their teens. Two additional sons, Hans and James, died as young adults. Both were buried in the Kennard Cemetery with James, at 18, being the first person to be buried at the Kennard Cemetery in March, 1891.

Although the Jeppesen family farmed northwest of Kennard, they made their home in Washington during the early years of the town's settlement. Between 1894-96, Peter built a home in the original town of Washington, Block 2 and Lots 11-13. Additionally, a combination wash house and workshed was constructed behind the house. The house is now owned by the James Wilcox family of Washington.

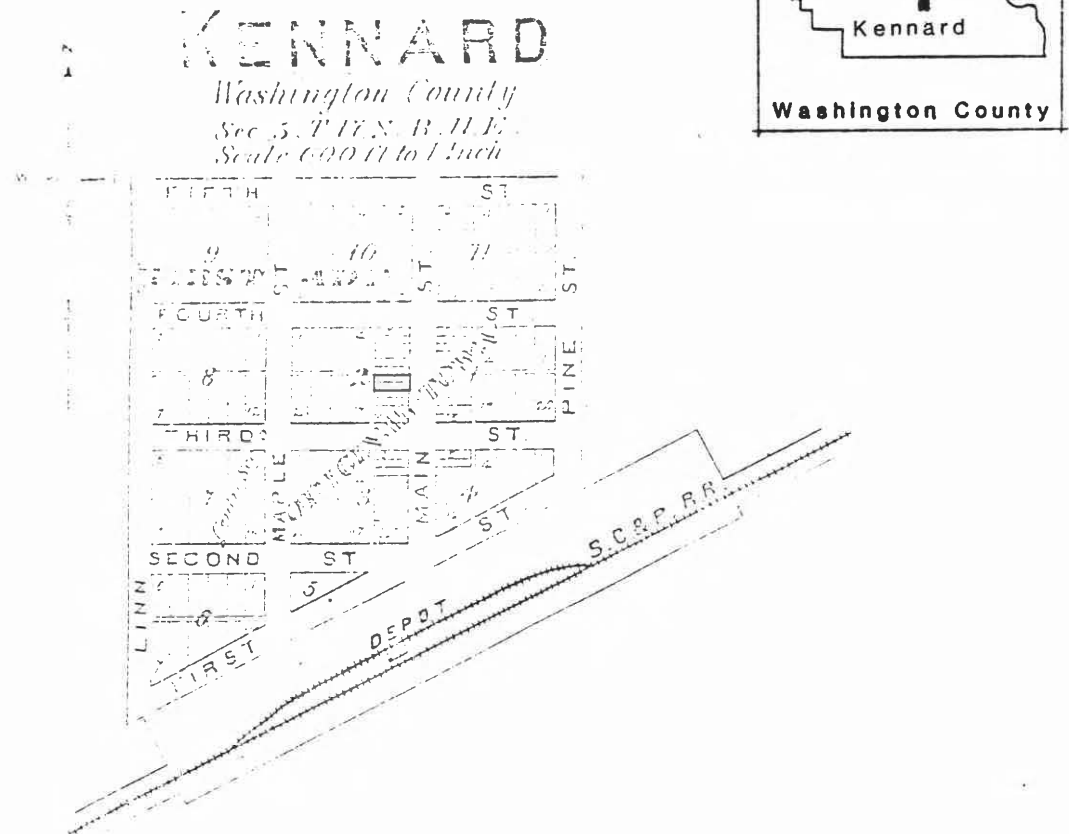
Danish-American Influences

WN07-13 The Peter Jeppesen House

Relation to Historic Context

The house was chosen as possibly Danish due to the presence of a symmetrical facade with central gabled wall dormer over the entry, and lathe-work bargeboards. Houses with more than one motif identified as Danish were more likely to prove Danish upon intensive research. The original owner of the house was from Denmark.

Town Location

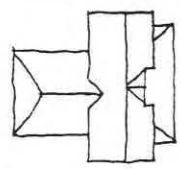


Kennard, Original Town, Block 2, Lots 11-13, 1885 Kennard Plat Map

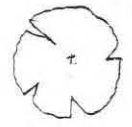
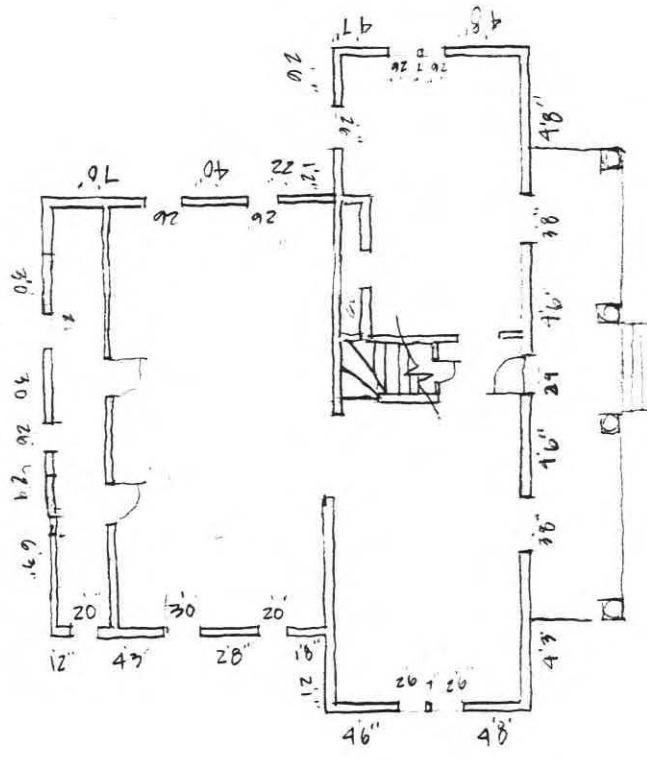
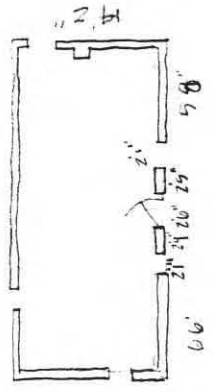
KEITH HARP
 WIND-13: FATHU
 WASH-CO. HIST BLDG SURVEY
 APRIL 20, 1986
 DRAWN BY: LAIRD ANDERSON
 JAH KAM



NO STAIRS



ROOF PLAN



MIN ST.

WN00-115 The Lars Hansen Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in south central Washington County in eastern Nebraska, the Lars Hansen farm is significant for its contribution to the Danish Overlay Context. Despite evidence of a smaller scale livestock farm operation, it is the characteristically Danish image of the house for which this site has been selected. The farm consists of six buildings, all considered contributing, and four contributing structures. An east-west lane divides the farm operation into two distinct functional areas. Located to the north of the lane are the domestic farm functions and positioned to the south we find the livestock production and crop-related functions. Briefly, the domestic-related buildings include the house, wash house, garage and storage shed and are further separated through a metal post and woven-wire fence encircling and connecting these buildings. Also found in the domestic zone are the orchard, windbreak, garden area, and non-extant poultry yard. To the south of the lane lie the livestock and crop-related buildings. These include the cattle barn (now horses), crib, silo, cattle yard, and fencing systems. The barn is large in scale, protected by a gambrel roof, and has attached woven-wire fenced lots and side shed addition.

The most significant feature of the farm, however, is the one-story brick farmhouse constructed in the early 1880's for the Danish-born immigrant Lars Hansen. Originally rectangular in shape, the house measures 9.0 m by 6.0 m, is protected by a gable roof and exhibits several significant Danish details. These include: an entry gable wall dormer, recessed front bays with segmental arched windows, sawtooth brick corbeling, and decorated bargeboards.



Historical Summary

Born September 29, 1841 in Rosbilda, Denmark, Lars Hansen came to America experienced in the trade of a blacksmith. Arriving in Omaha, Lars set up a blacksmith shop and married Ms. Emma Jensen on February 9, 1869. As a young couple, the Hansen's lived in Omaha and Lars carried on in his trade as a blacksmith. Late in 1877, The Hansen's moved from Omaha to a Washington County farm in the Richland Precinct. It was on this farmstead that Lars Hansen, with the help of carpenter Ed Schelhelm, built a brick house, wash house and shed in 1880. The Hansen's continued to live here until separated by the death of Lars in 1903. After his death, Lars' youngest son, Albert, and his wife Hulda Hansen purchased the farm and cared for Emma until her passing in 1928.

Albert Hansen built an addition to the original house, now the west half, in 1914 and constructed a barn in 1917. With the help of his five children, Albert farmed and retained ownership until passing the farmstead on to his son, Lawrence, in 1944. Much of the farm has remained in the Hansen family since 1877. Recently, Ann and Ray Chumley have purchased 5 acres containing the original house and barn. The remaining portion of the original 200-acre farmstead is still owned by various Hansen family members.

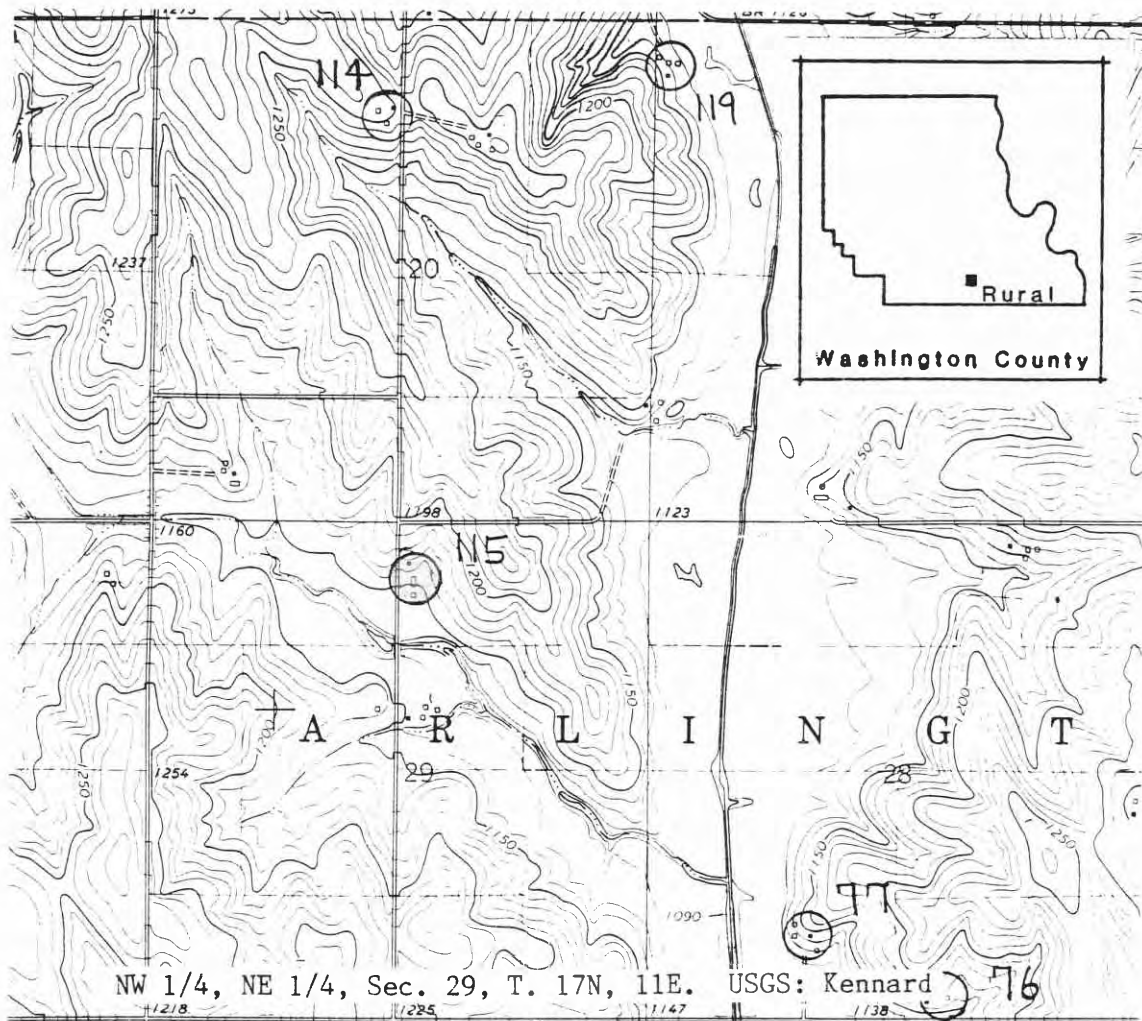
Danish-American Influences

WN00-115 The Lars Hansen Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

The farmstead was selected as possibly Danish due to the symmetrical facade with huge central wall dormer over the entry on the brick house. Brick is a common building material in Denmark but is found less often in Danish-American houses on the Plains. The sawtooth brick corbeling in the gables is similar to sawtooth decoration in wood frame houses in Danish-American houses in Dannebrog. Research on this site revealed the original owner was Danish.

Rural Location

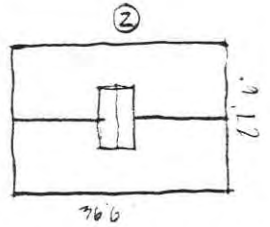


WIND-115: DANISH
LARS HANSEN FARM
MARCH 21, 1986
DRAWN BY J. KAY
L. HABERPLAN

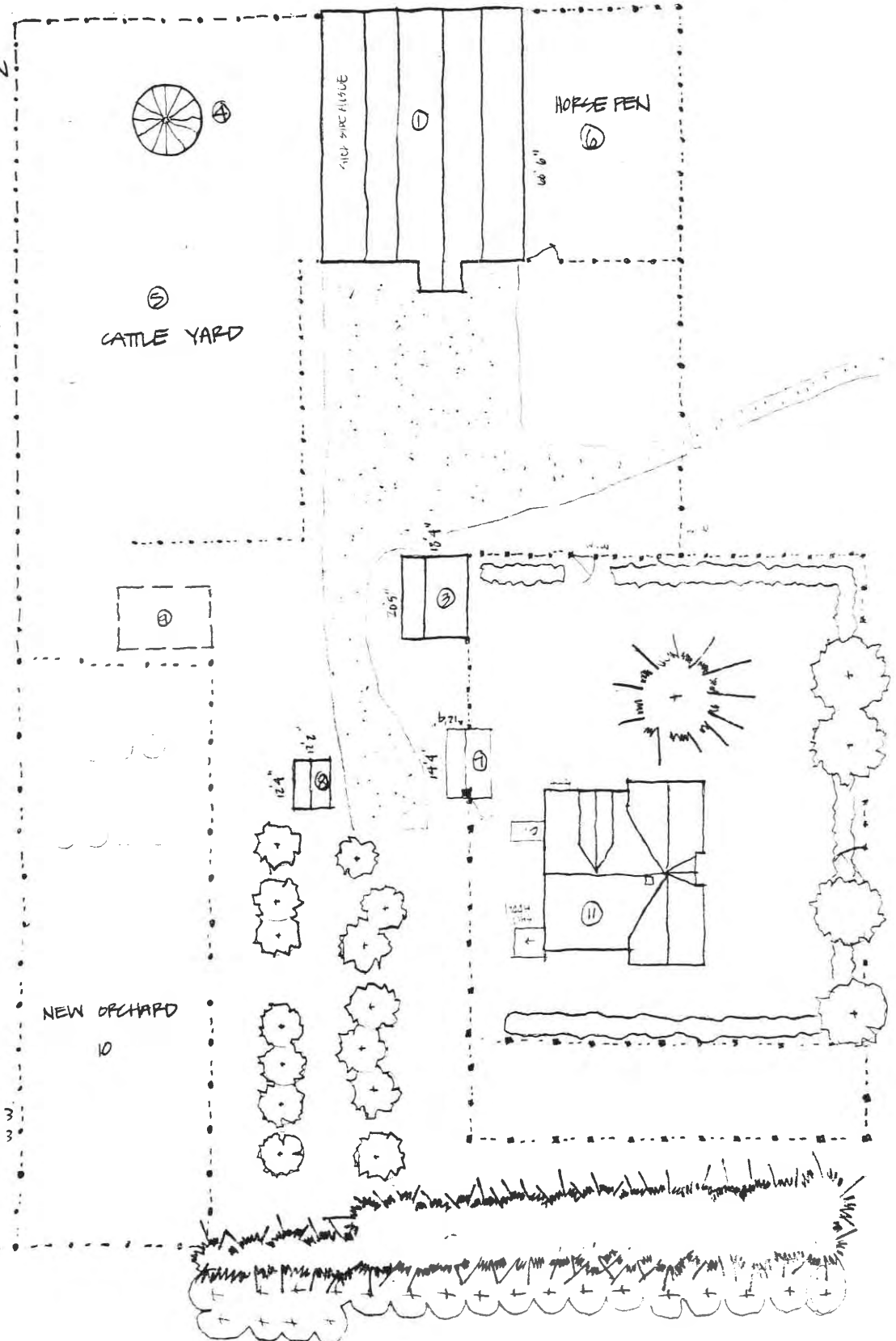


NO SCALE

□ □ □ □ □ □ WOOD POST
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ METAL POST
 - - - - - WOVEN WIRE
 ————— BOARD FENCE



1. CATTLE/HORSE BARN
2. GRANARY
3. GARAGE
4. GRAIN BIN
5. STOCK YARD
6. HORSE YARD
7. WASH HOUSE
8. SHED
9. NON-EXT. CHICKEN
10. NEW ORCHARD
11. HOUSE



1. BARN (CATTLE/HORSE)
 2. GRANARY
 3. GARAGE
 4. SHED
 5. STOCK YARD
 6. HORSE YARD
 7. WASH HOUSE
 8. SHED
 9. NON-EXT. CHICKEN
 10. NEW ORCHARD
 11. HOUSE

WIND-115. DANISH ALLEGES WITH 60 IN. WIND SPEED
 FOR 1986
 DRAWN BY J. KAY, L. HABERPLAN

WN00-114 The Schlop Kohl-Christiansen Farmstead



Architectural Description

The post-intensive evaluation of the Schlop Kohl-Christiansen farmstead reveals that despite Danish influences, the site does not exhibit the level of integrity sought by the survey team nor does it portray an assemblage of significant buildings. However, based on the pre-intensive evaluation on significance and the actual performance of an intensive-level survey, the site has been included in this inventory but with special notation of it's lesser importance.

Located in south central Washington County, the Schlop Kohl-Christiansen farm exhibits evidence of the general farm operation rather than the intensive livestock production usually associated with the study area. Evidence does exist of a small-scale livestock operation, but the scale of the buildings and the size of the areas fenced for feeding are not as large as what have been typically found. In addition to this is the fact that this particular farm is just one of several historically owned by the Christiansen's (the others lacking integrity) and was not the most prominent of the group. Increasing the difficulty of farm-type analysis is the absence of the barn, which is perhaps one of the most suggestive of all farm-related buildings.

The farm, as it exists today, consists of 12 buildings. Ten of these buildings are considered to be contributing with an additional count of two contributing structures. Of the 10 contributing buildings, four are believed to have been built by Claus Schlop Kohl, two were constructed by Chris Christiansen Sr., and three were moved onto the property from the other Christiansen-acquired farmsteads.



Historical Summary

Samuel Davidson, born in Ohio in 1822, came to Washington County at age 53 and began a life of farming. During his 20 years of farming, Samuel made two noticeable additions to his farmstead. In 1875 he built a house which is still located on the farmstead of Chris Christiansen, Jr., although it has been relocated. Shortly after, he added a substantial orchard to the farmstead.

In 1895, Samuel sold the farmstead to Claus Schlopkoehl who made additional contributions to the farmstead. Claus moved into the house built by Samuel and constructed a granary, wash house and two sheds. After just 8 years, Mr. Schlopkoehl put the farm up for sale and in 1917 it was purchased by Peter Christiansen. Peter lived there for three short years before it was handed down to his son, Chris Christiansen Sr.

Chris Christiansen Sr. was born in Washington County on a farm his parents owned for a short time after working for the Rasmussen brothers in the area. Chris' parents, Peter and Patrina Christiansen, had come to America in 1884 from Thorning, Denmark. After several moves, the Christiansen family came to settle on the current Chris Christiansen, Jr. farmstead. Chris too made several contributions to the farmstead. In 1920 he built a corn crib and hay shed and in 1927 he built a house. Bill Glandt, an area carpenter, was said to have done much of the building during the Christiansen era.

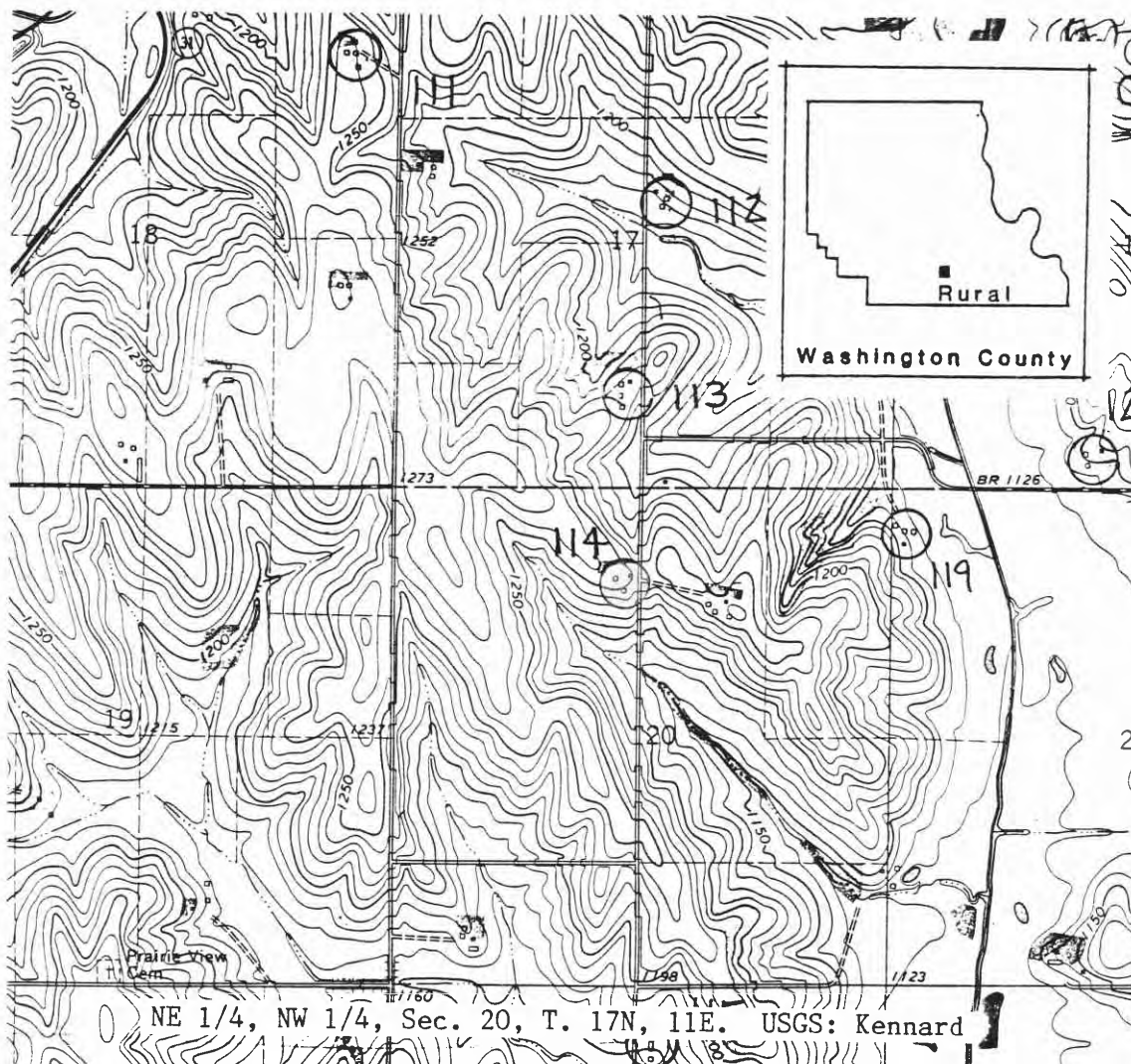
Danish-American Influences

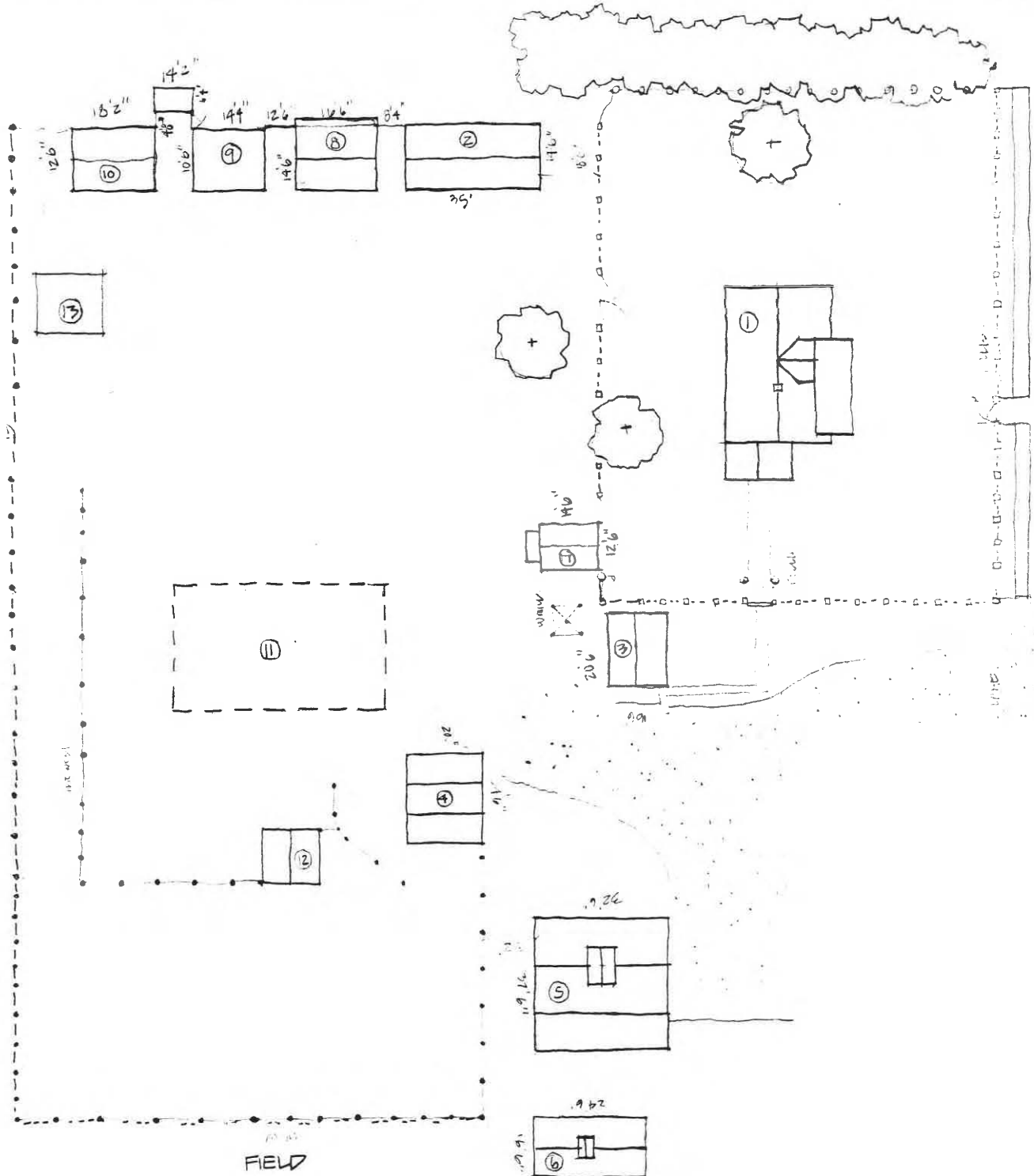
WN00-114 The Schlopkoehl-Christiansen Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

The farmstead was selected as possibly Danish due to courtyard-like arrangement of the farm buildings. Typical Danish farmsteads are arranged in a tight rectangular courtyard with all buildings connected. The house has certain romantic details but was not the primary reason the site was selected. Research revealed the original owner was not Danish. On further investigation it was discovered the whole site generally lacks integrity and is of secondary importance.

Rural Location





WINDO-114: DANKSH
SCHLOPKOHL-CHRISTIANSEN
MARCH, 1986
WASHINGTON CO: NEHBS
DRAWN BY: J. KAY



NO SCALE

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ | WOOD FENCE POST |
| ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● | METAL FENCE POST |
| — — — — — — — — | WOVEN WIRE |
| ===== | BOARD FENCE |

1. HOUSE - 1929
2. HOUSE
3. GARAGE
4. OLD GRANARY
5. CORN CRIB
6. GRANARY
7. WASH HOUSE
8. GABLE SHED
9. SHED
10. WEST SHED
11. NON-EXTANT BARN
12. HAY SHED

Summary of Danish-American Intensive Properties

Without having an historically documented reference that outlines the known characteristics of Danish houses in eastern Nebraska, the attempt to document Danish-built architecture becomes somewhat of a hit and miss process. Armed with a set of what were believed to be Danish-associated features, the reconnaissance-level survey became a testing of the Danish hypothesis. The architectural elements used in the hypothesis were drawn from existing NeHBS survey information of Danish-settled communities (HW04, HM05) and are elaborated upon in the Danish-American Context Report. The following four sites are examples of those properties that exhibited the Danish characteristics during the reconnaissance survey, but upon further intensive investigation, lacked any association with Danish immigrants or descendants. However, these sites are still considered important to the preservation planning process and are included in this final report for two reasons: 1) despite lacking Danish association, these are still significant examples of historic properties which may fit future contexts; and 2) the failure of the hypothesis is just as educational as the success of the hypothesis.

WN02-42

The Thomas Wilkinson House



Architectural Description

Located in the predominantly Danish-settled fourth ward of Blair, the Thomas Wilkinson house is considered significant for its brick, one-story plus mansard roof construction. Based on visual comparison with a 1908 historic photo, the house retains much of its exterior integrity despite the removal of the tower's third-story mansard roof. The house consists of an irregular-shaped core with an attached front corner porch and one-story side wing. A one-story enclosed entry porch is also found on the rear or north of the house. The house is believed to have been constructed in 1885 and displays an identical form to the Arndt house (WN02-76) also built in 1885 in Blair's second ward. The house measures 9.2 m by 8.1 m and is decorated with segmentally arched openings on the first floor, pedimented window hoods on the mansard, and a pressed-metal cornice surrounding the base of the mansard floor. The altered front tower was used to form a striking silhouette and was internally divided into one-story spaces. The floor plan of the house appears to have retained much of its original wall division. Access was gained through one of two perpendicular adjacent entryways, the south leading into a front room, and the east into the main living space. The two-story core has just three main rooms, two of which were mentioned above and then a kitchen space located to the north at the back of the house. A side one-story wing contained additional living space and had a separate front entry covered by a non-extant porch.



Historical Summary

Born in England in 1838, Thomas Wilkinson eventually settled in Washington County, Nebraska. Thomas immigrated to the United States in 1864 and initially settled on a farm 7 miles south of Blair. Here, the Wilkinson family had purchased a tract of railroad land and soon began farming there. By 1885, the Wilkinson family decided to move to Blair and build a new home. Their reason for leaving the farm is unknown. In Blair, the Wilkinson's built a brick mansard-roofed house on Nebraska Street and resided there until 1904 when Hans Lamp took possession. Currently, Joan Masters owns the house and is in the process of minor renovations.

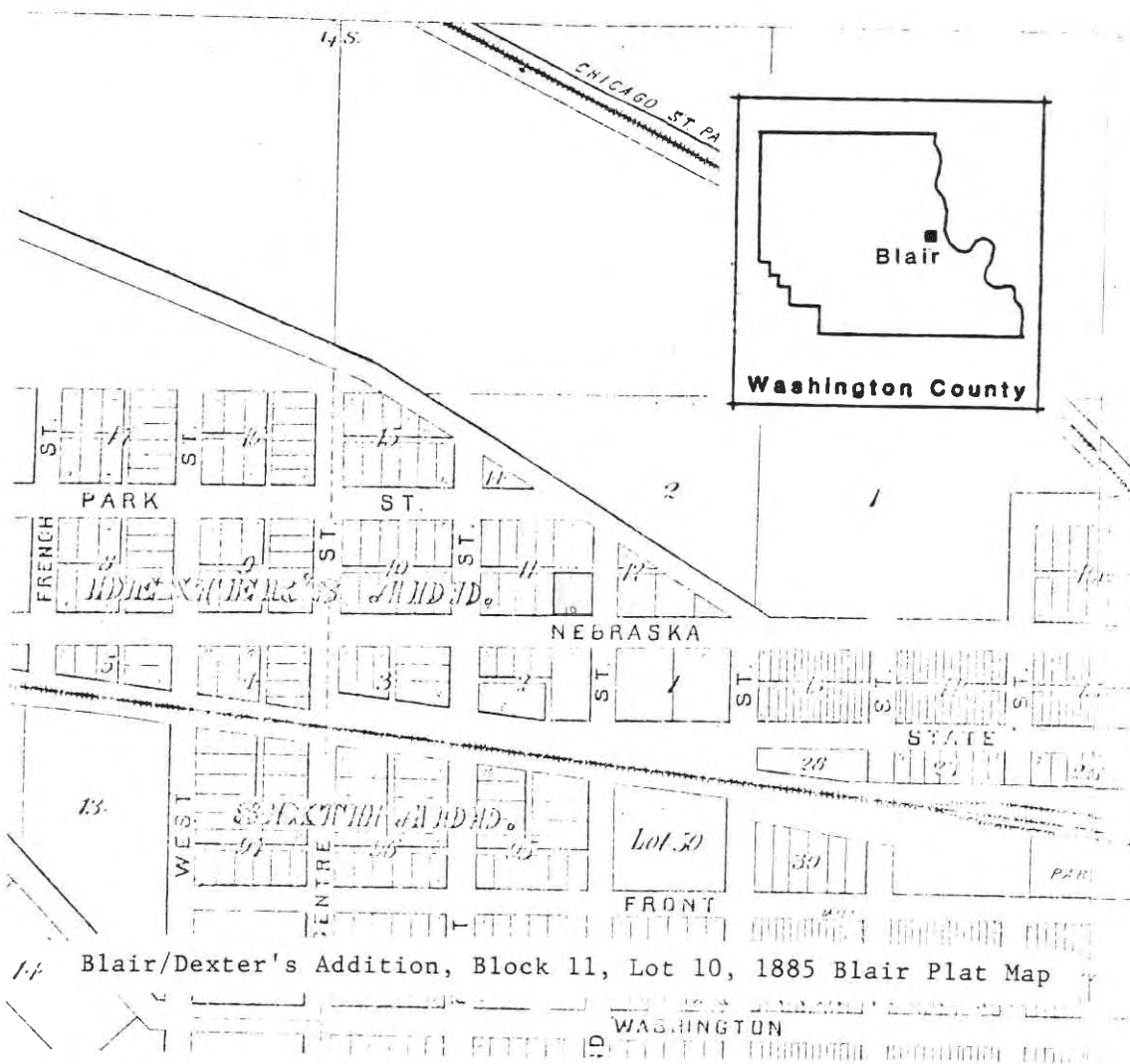
WN02-42

The Thomas Wilkinson House

Relation to Historic Context

This vernacular brick mansard was identified as having potential Danish cultural associations. It was found to be non-Danish. Prior research on Danish and Danish-American design elements did not predict mansard-roofed houses would be found in the county. There are, however, more mansard roofed houses in Blair than in any other city or county surveyed to date through the NeHBS. A number of these are located in Ward 4, the ward in Blair which had the highest percentage of Danish-born persons in Blair. Old Main, Dana College, a Danish-American college, has a mansard roof. The mansard-roofed houses in Blair should be researched to discover common threads, if any, common to them.

Town Location



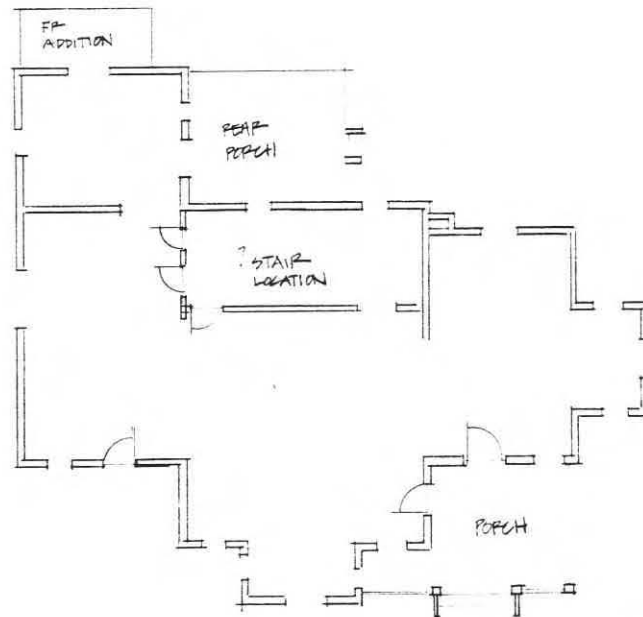
NE.HDS. : WASHINGTON COUNTY
WN02-42: THOS. WILKINSON HOUSE
MARCH 18, 1986
DRAWN BY : J. KAY
L. HABERMAN



NO SCALE

N

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



WN02-50 The Samuel Warrick House



Architectural Description

The Samuel and Amanda Warrick house consists of a one and one-half story T-shaped mass with various ancillary elements. The T-shaped core measures 11.7 m by 3.7 m with a rear stem measuring 4.8 m by 3.05 m. The ancillary elements attached to this core include a frontal porch, a screened wrap-a-round side porch, an attached summer kitchen, and an integrated brick cellar. The screened wrap-a-round porch connects the east side of the T-stem to the east end of the T-bar and contains a gabled corner entry. The T-shaped core is capped with gable roofs with scroll and lathework at the bargeboards. The house is sited in a latitudinal orientation on the southwest corn of Park and Twentieth Streets. The house is believed to be constructed about 1895 and consists of a wood frame structure, sheathed in 2-inch clapboard siding. Decorative features are seen in the two gable wall dormers in the front facade and the oriel windows on the south and east ends of the T. The floor plan, despite current deterioration, still retains integrity. The "bar" of the T contains a three-room arrangement with the main entry off axis and leading into a small front room. Adjacent to this room are the dining room to the west and the parlor to the east. The stem extends to the south or rear and contained additional living space. An unusual feature of the plan are the adjacent but separate staircases placed in an enclosed scissor-like fashion at the intersection of the T-plan. In addition to the house, a small wood frame garage and the integrated brick cellar are considered as contributing buildings.



Historical Summary

Born 7 years apart in Indiana, Samuel and Amanda Warrick came to meet in Washington County and eventually married there. Samuel, the elder, began his journey to the county with his father on March 24, 1857 at age 20. They departed via St. Louis, Missouri and traveled to Jefferson City by rail. From Jefferson City they went to St. Joe by steamboat and on to Council Bluffs by stage and foot. By April 14, they had arrived in the city of Omaha and proceeded to walk to the town of Fort Calhoun where they stayed at the Tew Hotel, run by a friend of the Warrick family.

The morning of April 15, Samuel and his father set out from the Tew Hotel for Cuming City. There were no roads to follow--just Indian trails. By the evening of April 15, they arrived at their destination, Cuming City. After just two weeks Mr. Warrick left and returned home, leaving Samuel, then 21, a farmstead and new life to begin.

In 1858 Samuel Warrick sowed the first wheat said to have been sown in that area of Washington County. By 1861 Samuel had married Amanda, a native of Indiana also, and built a log house on the farm to live in. In 1900 Samuel and Amanda retired to city life and built a home in Blair where they lived for the next 13 years.

Subsequent owners of the home were James Peter Jensen, 1913-1939, and Oscar Howard Jensen, 1939-1955. Mrs. Loucille Paulson currently owns the home.

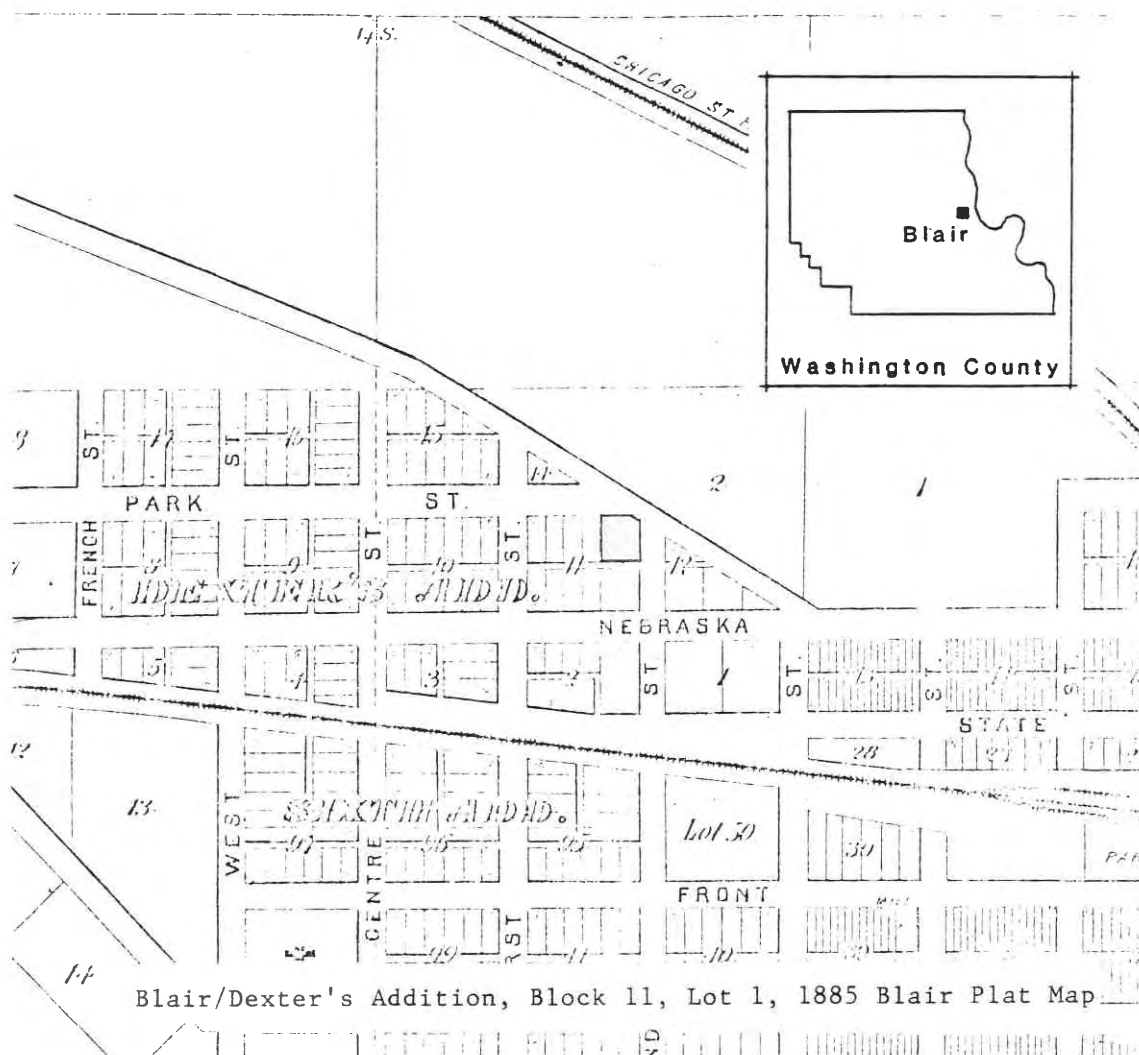
Danish-American Influences

WN02-50 The Samuel Warrick House

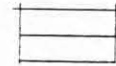
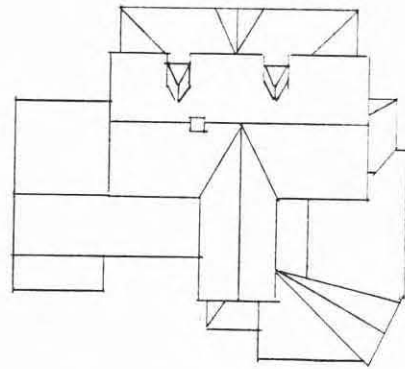
Relation to Historic Context

The house was chosen as possibly Danish due to the symmetrical facade with two hipped-roof wall dormers. Scrollwork bargeboards can be classified as romantic detail. Research revealed the original owner was not Danish. Hipped roofs were not common on houses built by Danes in the study area.

Town Location

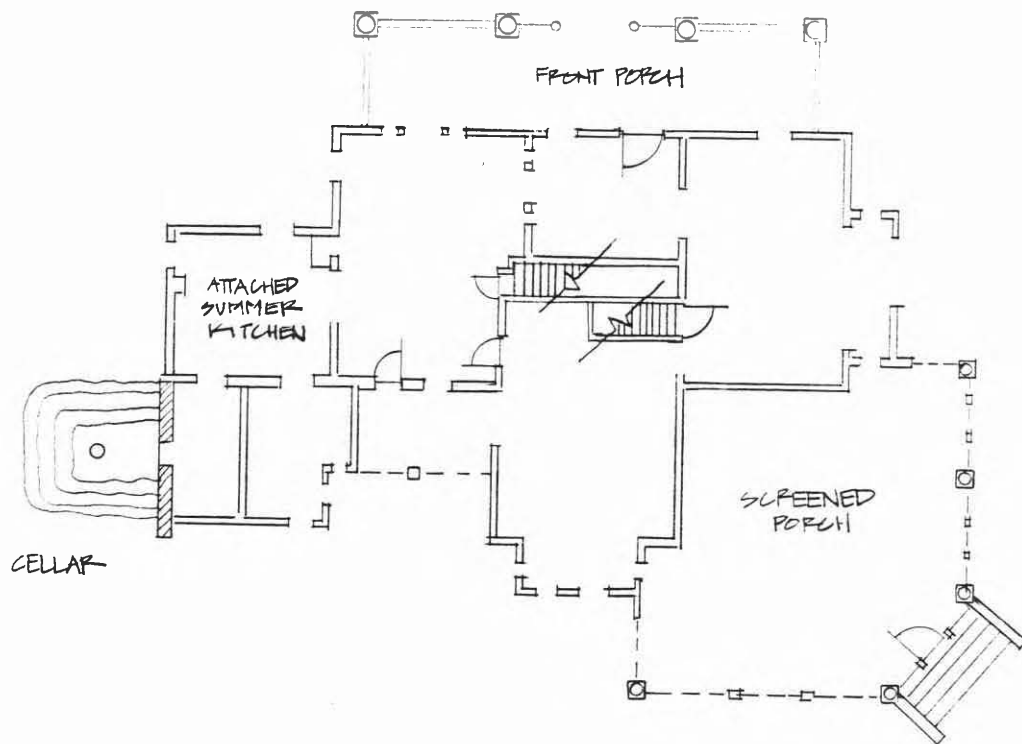


WNOZ-50: SAMUEL: AMANDA WAPKIK
DANISH-AMERICAN INFLUENCES
N. HBS: WASHINGTON COUNTY
MARCH 10, 1986
DRAWN BY: J. KAY
L. HABERPLAN



POOF PLAN

NO SCALE



WN00-169 The Jobst & John Giesselmann Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in southwestern Washington County in eastern Nebraska, the Jobst and John Giesselmann farm displays an excellent collection of late 19th and early 20th century buildings. While consisting of eight contributing buildings and two contributing structures, the most notable buildings on the site are the house and barn. Both buildings display what were believed to be Danish decorative motifs, but upon further investigation were found to have been built by immigrants from the German Rhineland province of Westphalia.

The house is located north of an east-west lane and is grouped with all other farm buildings to form an unbalanced farm layout. These other buildings include: the corn crib, garage, storage shed, chicken house, crib/machine shed and the original 1860's Giesselmann farmhouse. The barn is then located to the south of the lane and sits in what is now relative isolation due to the razing of original adjacent structures. The barn is identical in size, form and plan to the Frederick Plugge barn (WN00-124) who purportedly worked as a farm laborer for John Giesselmann. It measures 16.5 m by 13.5 m, is oriented in a north-south direction and is decorated with two gable wall dormers in which are found a single semicircular window. Further decoration is found in the pyramidal roof cupola with diamond-shaped vents and the curved brackets supporting the hay hood. The plan of the barn consists of a central core with two horse stalls and an enclosed feed storage with a drive through to the south and five adjacent horse stalls along the south wall. To the north is an aisle flanked by two large pens for milk cows along the north wall, and four more horse stalls along the west wall.



Historical Summary

Jobst Heinrich Giesselmann, an immigrant from Herford Westphalia, Germany, came to Washington County, Nebraska in 1867 with his wife, Maria, and 1 1/2-year-old son, John. In the same year, the Giesselmann's bought a farmstead northwest of Arlington and built a house and several small outbuildings. At age 24, Jobst's son, John Gottlieb Giesselmann, began to run the farmstead and added several new structures. After surveying an area across the road from his father's original farmstead, John Giesselmann decided to build on this new site and in 1890 erected a new house. A large barn was added to the site in 1902. Cottonwood, cut and hauled from the Elkhorn River vicinity, is said to have been used in construction of the barn and Bob Badker, an area carpenter, was hired to build both the house and barn.

In 1890, after 25 years on his original farmstead, Jobst Giesselmann moved across the road to the new farmstead to live with his son. When he died, John Giesselmann moved the original house and several outbuildings of his father's across the road to his place and utilized them as storage areas.

John Giesselmann continued to run the farmstead until 1951 when Harry Giesselmann became the owner. Harry Giesselmann farmed up to 1980 when the farmstead was sold to Tim and Lila Stork. During these years, much of the farming has been devoted to horses, cattle and general farming practices.

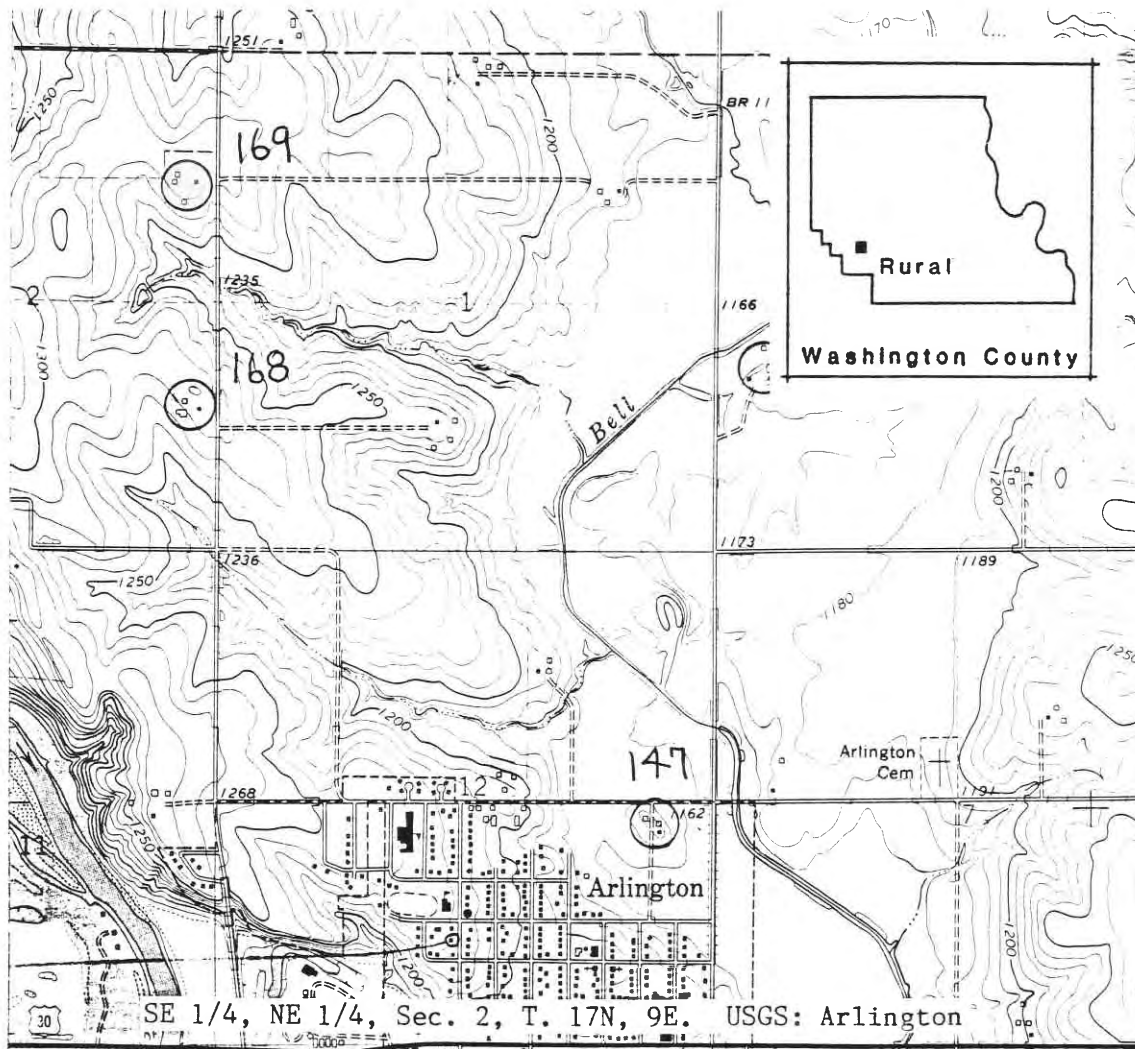
Danish-American Influences

WN00-169 The Jobst & John Giesselmann Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

This farmstead was identified as possibly Danish due to the presence of gabled wall dormers with semicircular windows in the barn. The barn was one of three in the county of this size, shape and detail. As a result of prior research and the reconnaissance survey, it was deduced that the presence of gabled wall dormers, especially huge central gabled wall dormers, were a probable Danish characteristic in houses. This seemed to hold up in the field survey. It was also deduced as a result of reconnaissance survey that the presence of gabled wall dormers as a Danish characteristic did not carry over into barns or other farm buildings.

Rural Location



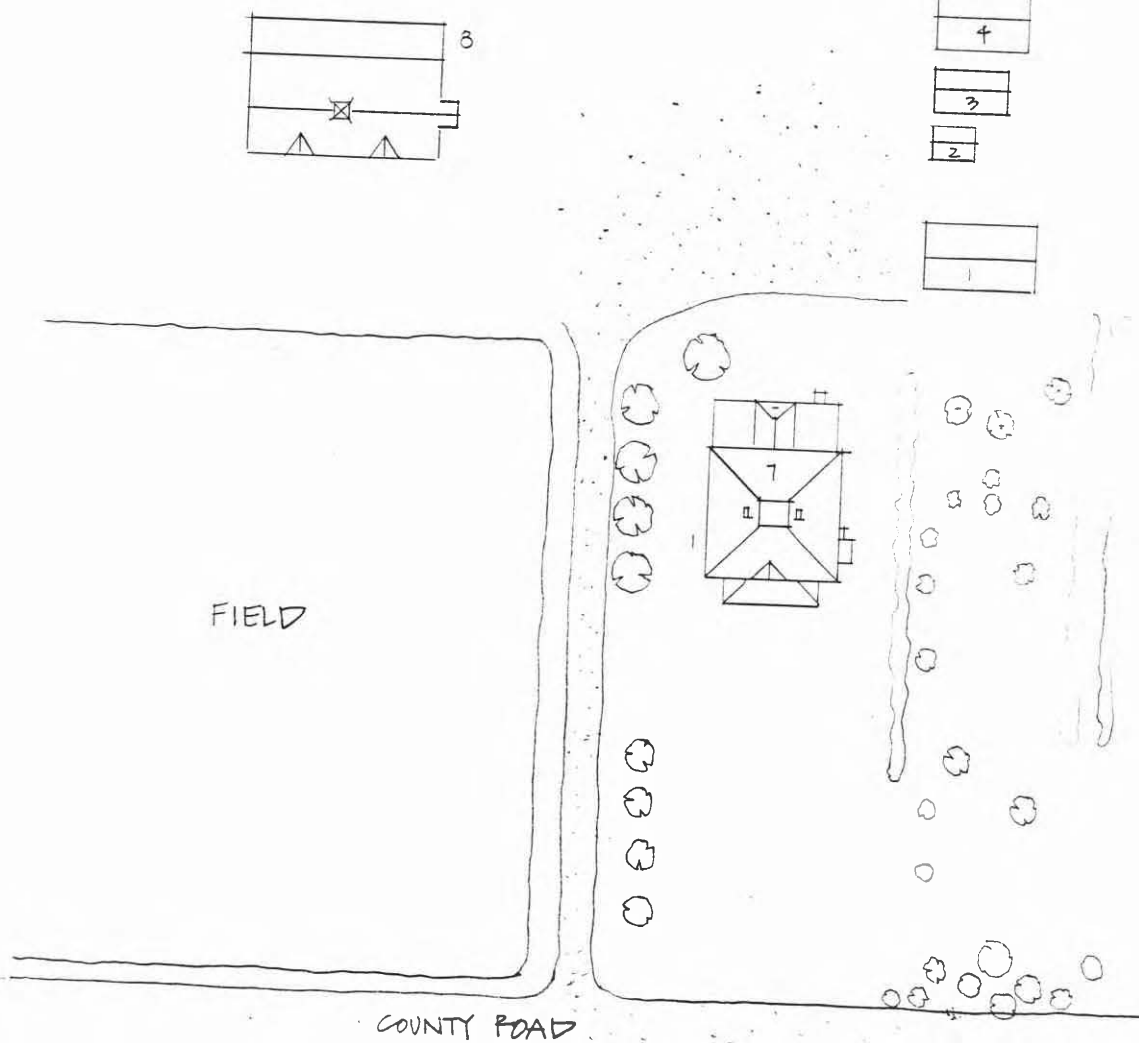
NEHBS. : WASHINGTON CO.
 WND-169 : GIESSELMANN FARM
 MARCH 27, 1986
 DRAWN BY: J. KAY
 L. HABERPLAN

LEGEND:

1. CORN CRIB
2. GARAGE
3. OLD HOUSE CA 1860'S
4. STORAGE SHED
5. CHICKEN HOUSE
6. MACHINE SHED
7. HOUSE
8. BARN



NO SCALE



Danish-American Influences

WN00-124 The Frederick Plugge Farmstead



Architectural Description

Located in central Washington County, the Fredrick Plugge farm was originally identified in the reconnaissance survey as a potential Danish farmstead. The basis for this assumption was centered on the barn which exhibited what were believed to be Danish-built characteristics. However, upon further investigation it was found that the original owners were not Danish but rather Germans from the northern province of Oldenburg. The property is still included in the inventory at this point however, for it remains an historically significant example of ethnic farm architecture. Further significance lies in the documentation of two other farms in Washington County with distinctly similar barns. One of these sites, the John Giesselmann farm (WN00-169) retains a barn which is identical in form, orientation and size, and has also been included in this inventory. The primary buildings of each farm consist of a house, crib and barn.

Further similarities between these two farms are exhibited in the arrangement and orientation of the buildings. Both farms are located on the west side of a north-south county road and are accessed via an east-west lane leading into the farmyard. The location of the barns are similar in that both are placed south of the lane and are relatively isolated from adjacent buildings. The houses are both located north of the lane to the east with the cribs also to the north but placed on the west to form a semi-enclosed farmyard.



Historical Summary

Born in Oldenburg, Germany in 1869, Fredrick George Plugge emigrated to the United States in 1880 at the young age of 11. During the early settlement years, people came to territories such as Nebraska because they usually heard about particular places of interest from other immigrants. Fredrick Plugge came to America to join two of six other Plugge children. Brother Henry, then age 17, and sister Lena, 14, were already in the United States when Fredrick arrived there. It is believed that the three older children came over with their father and the mother and four younger children were sent for at a later date, after an area of settlement was filed upon.

The area where the Plugge's decided to settle was several miles south of the present town of Orum. In 1902, Fredrick purchased land owned by William March, a cattle feeder who operated one of the areas largest feedlots in the late 1880's. On this land, Fredrick built a home, corn crib and an enormous barn. The barn, as often happened, was built first in 1909 and the house and corn crib in 1911. A local builder, George Andersen Jr., was responsible for the actual building of the structures. In a related comparison, it should be noted that Fredrick Plugge worked for John Gottlieb Giesselmann who constructed an identical barn documented as site WN00-169.

Currently operated by the Walter L. Plugge family, the farmstead is still owned by descendants of the original Plugge family.

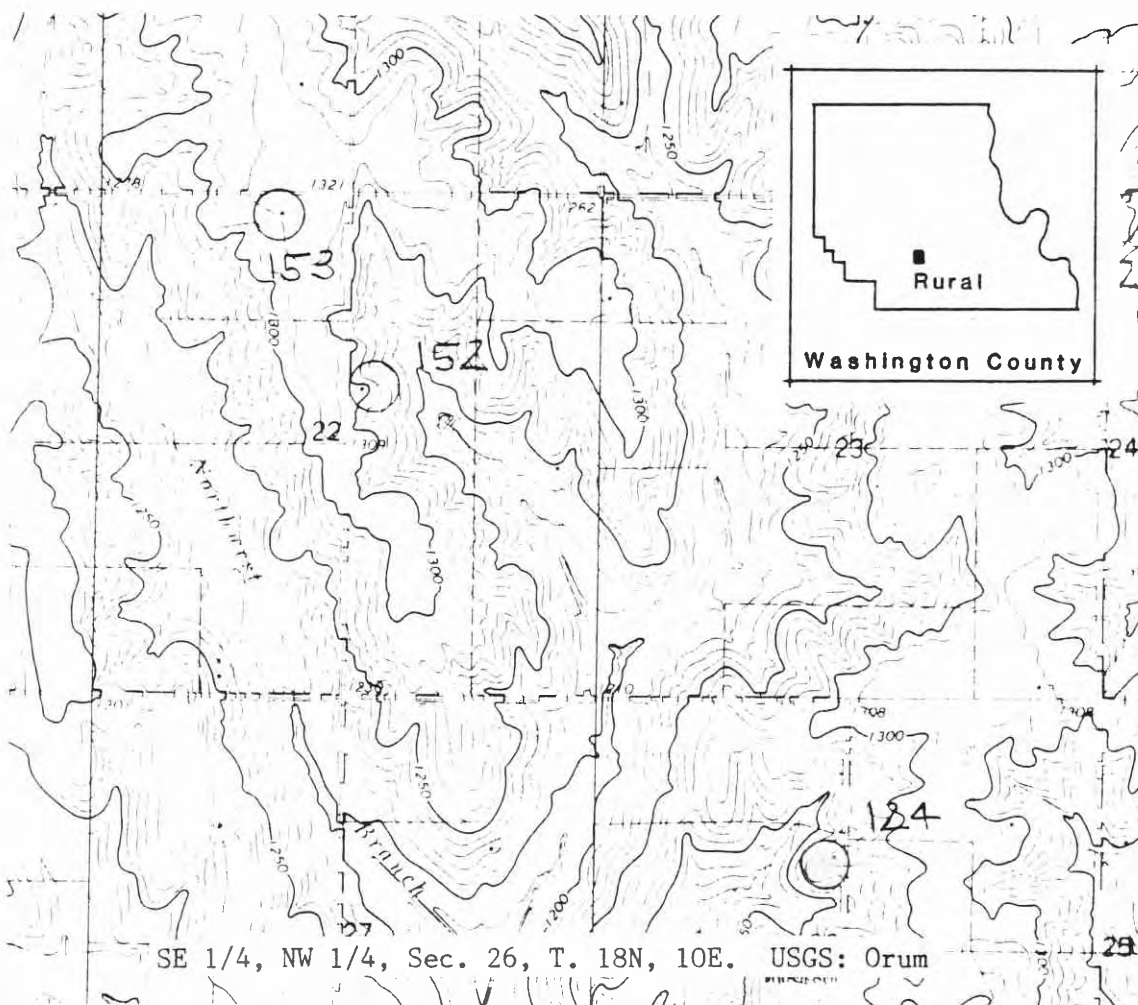
Danish-American Influences

WN00-124 The Frederick Plugge Farmstead

Relation to Historic Context

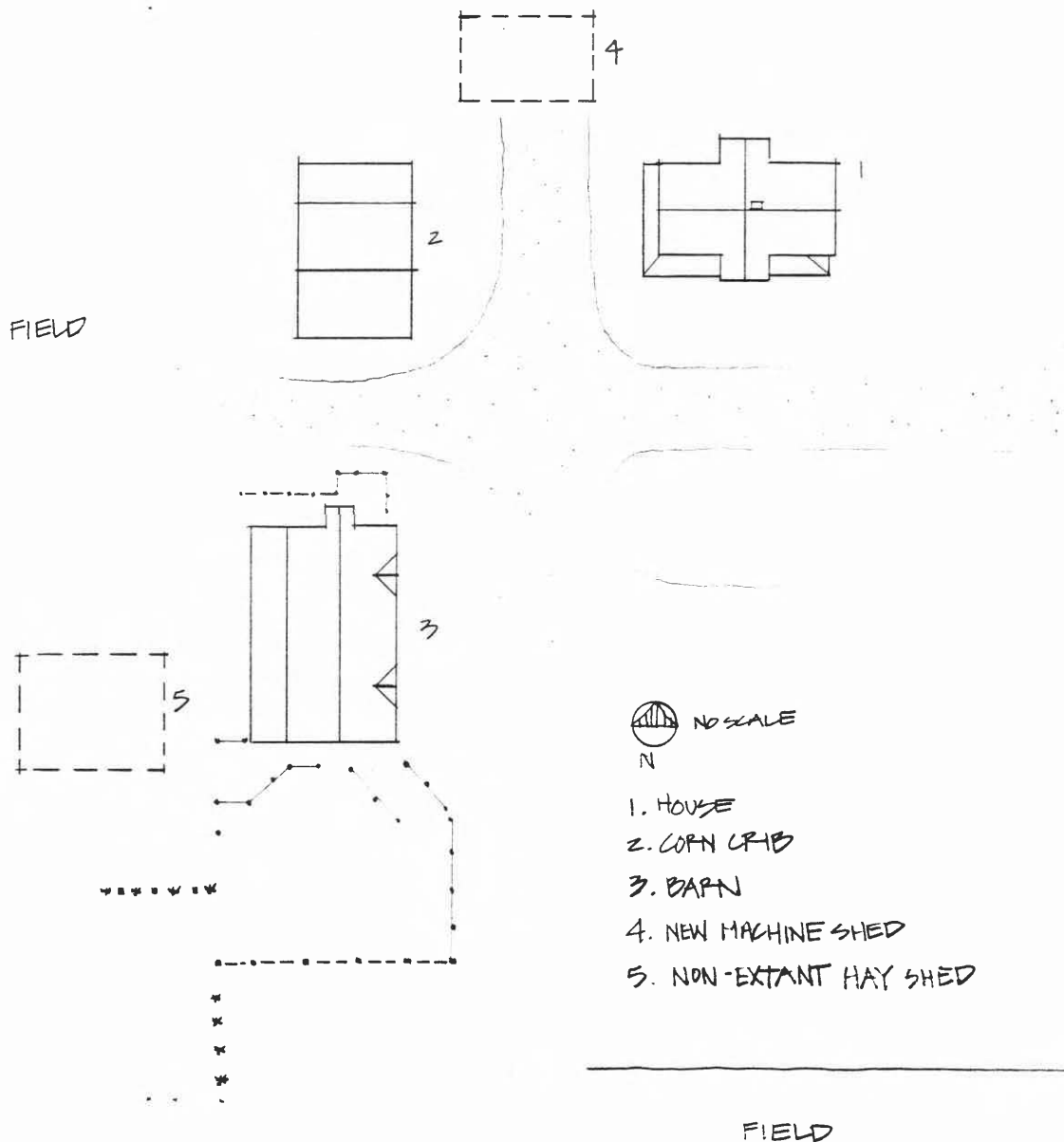
This farmstead was identified as possibly Danish due to the presence of gabled wall dormers in the barn. The barn was one of three in the county of this size, shape and detail. The gabled wall dormers in the barn have semicircular windows in them. As a result of prior research and the reconnaissance survey, it was deduced that the presence of gabled wall dormers, especially huge central gabled wall dormers, were a probable Danish characteristic in houses. This seemed to be held up in the field survey. It was also deduced as a result of reconnaissance survey that the presence of gabled wall dormers as a Danish characteristic did not carry over into barns or other farm buildings. The house on the farm had lost its integrity and was not considered in contextual identification.

Rural Location



NEHBS: WASHINGTON COUNTY
 WND-124: FRED PULBE FARM
 MARCH, 1986
 DRAWN BY: J. KAY
 L. HABERMAN

- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ WOOD FENCE POST
- ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● METAL FENCE POST
- ||||| VERTICAL BOARD FENCE
- WOVEN WIRE FENCE
- _____ HORIZONTAL WOOD FENCE
- * * * * * BARBED WIRE FENCE



NO SCALE
 N

- 1. HOUSE
- 2. CORN CRIB
- 3. BARN
- 4. NEW MACHINE SHED
- 5. NON-EXTANT HAY SHED

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3. Retail Commerce Context

A. Research Design

B. Historic Context Report

C. Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

D. Bibliography

RETAIL COMMERCE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY



APPENDIX C

Historic Context: Retail Commerce

1. Event: Main street real estate boom of the 1880's.

We expect to find 1880's building highly represented on the main streets of Washington County towns. The 1880's was perhaps the major main street growth period in the county's history, and current buildings will reflect this. Smaller towns will tend to have commercial buildings of wood or wood frame. In Blair we hope to find brick commercial buildings. We will also look closely for potential historic districts. It is hoped that at least one main street historic district will be identified.

2. Event: Establishment of 19th century commercial stores in rural communities.

We expect to find examples of false-front commercial buildings in the small towns and rural communities of Washington County. Examples are known to have existed in Orum, Telbasta, Admah, Vacoma, Spiker, and New England. Recommendations will be made for potential thematic significance.

3. Personages:

C. C. Crowell, Sr. & Jr., Blair grain, elevator, and lumber merchants. Their significance extends from their homebase in Blair throughout northeastern Nebraska by means of their chain of stores and elevators along the railroad lines.

Chester C. and George A. Marshall of Marshall Nurseries, Arlington. These men founded the nursery in 1887 to supply trees to the county. The business expanded in the 20th century to include shipment throughout the Midwest. According to the 1964 U.S. Agricultural Census, it was the largest nursery in terms of acres in the state.

4. Priority:

Priority is given to buildings with high integrity, i.e., pressed tin and cast iron elements in brick buildings and unremodelled store-fronts in all buildings.

COMMERCIAL RETAIL CONTEXT

Retail trade springs up wherever groups of people come together. In the past, when transportation was more difficult than today, towns were located as centers for distribution of goods to the rural population. Retail stores in these towns provided the basic needs for those who lived nearby.

Retailing is the branch of business devoted to the sale of goods to consumers for their ultimate use. The goods sold by retailers may be purchased from wholesalers or manufacturers. In some cases, such as restaurants and bakeries, goods are sold where they are produced. Goods sold in such situations are known as consumers' goods. Wholesalers may also deal in consumer goods but make their sales to retailers or to others for further processing and are not intended for the consumer's ultimate use.

Some retailers sell goods not intended for ultimate consumption. Hardware stores, for example, sell to builders who may not be the ultimate consumer. Agricultural supplies such as seed or farm implements which will be used in production may also be purchased from a retail store. Goods such as these are known as producers' goods. Retail stores are usually classified retail or wholesale depending on which type of sale represents the majority of their business (Nystrom, 1936).

Whether dealing in consumers' goods or producers' goods or both, retail stores differ in a number of aspects. The kind of merchandise sold, the amount and kind of selling done and the kind and quality of service provided are aspects to be considered in retailing (Gilt, 1968, p. 37).

Retailing is in a perpetual state of change caused by the development of new products to sell and new methods to merchandise those products. Many types of retail institutions go through a cycle of changes in their lifetime. As innovations in retailing have caught on some of the more mature types have diminished in market shares yet remain on the scene. The complete or even substantial elimination of

older types of retail institutions is more rare than the establishments of new types (McNair, 1976, p. 465). Today the variety and diversity of retail distribution change is increasing at an accelerating rate.

Temporal and Geographic Boundaries

The geographic boundaries of the context are those of Washington County. In general, there is little published information on retailing in the state. General histories of the state emphasize agriculture and manufacturing with little mention of retailing's role in Nebraska's economic history. Theses and business college publications on retailing are few in number and very limited in scope. It was assumed that retailing in Washington County followed national and state trends.

Temporal boundaries were determined by a number of factors. Modes of transportation were primary factors in their determination. Events within the county as well as state trends were considered. The coming of the railroad had tremendous impact on town formation and growth. Retail businesses were established as soon as a town was found. The impact of the automobile and where people went to do their shopping had a profound impact on retailing, a trend that continues even today. Other factors in determining temporal boundaries are discussed in the following sections.

Initial Settlement, 1800-1868

Retail trade during the period of initial settlement was small in scale and of the most basic sort. Supplies for retail establishments were brought in by river transport then hauled overland in horse drawn wagons. Both the quantity and variety of goods was at a minimum. After the opening of the territory to European settlement, the population of Nebraska grew relatively slowly. The Civil War was a factor in the slow growth of the territory. After the war new settlers began arriving at a faster pace, in part to claim lands made available through the 1863 Homestead Act. The coming of the railroad in 1869 brought about a profound change in the settlement of Washington County. The coming of the railroad then marks the end of the period of initial settlement and

the beginning of the period of growth and prosperity. The following section on the initial settlement of Washington County is meant to serve as an introduction to the period of growth and prosperity which succeeds it.

The earliest type of retailing in Nebraska was fur trading and more appropriately the subject of a separate context. Fur trading posts developed on the colonial frontier in the 17th century and continued in existence in Nebraska through the early to mid-19th century. Trading posts exchanged furs for trapping supplies, food and clothing. In Nebraska, fur trading posts were most often located along the Missouri River. A number of fur trading posts were located in what is now Washington County. The earliest was Cruzette's Post in 1802. Cabanne's first trading post from 1822-26 was located near the later settlement of Rockport. Manuel Lisa's post, Fort Lisa, was located a mile or two north of Cabanne's from 1812 to 1823 (Shrader, 1937, pp. 43-44). Trading posts in Washington County were temporary in character and none developed into a town that survived to the dawn of the 20th century.

In frontier Nebraska, military forts and stage stations saw some retail activity although this was not their primary role. Trading posts, forts and stage stations provided services to transients traveling through the state.

With passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, Nebraska was opened to settlement. Southeast Nebraska was the scene of the most intense settlement activity from Rulo to Omaha (Reps, 1979). Washington County, just north of Omaha, saw early interest in colonization (see Historic Overview). Information on retailing during this period is scant but gives a glimpse into the numbers and types of retail establishments typical in towns of the period.

Fontanelle, established in 1854 by members of the Nebraska Colonization Company of Quincy, Illinois, was one of the earliest towns in Washington County. The first stock of goods arrived in the community in 1855. These were brought by the keeper of the Fontanelle House, a double log house hotel (Bell, 1876, p. 55). Fort Calhoun was platted in 1855. By the spring of 1856 the town's retail establishments included a

grocery store, blacksmith shop and two saloons (Bell, 1876, p. 33). Desoto, incorporated in 1855, had accumulated 10 to a dozen saloons and nearly as many stores by 1857 when gold fever struck many of the settlers. The town was abandoned by a majority of the settlers (Bell, 1876, p. 38) and by 1879 the Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory listed only a post office and grocery store for Desoto. In 1857 Cuming City had three stores and three hotels. The town was unable to attract the railroad and when Blair was chosen as the site of the county seat all confidence in the town failed. Shortly after this several Cuming City buildings were moved to Blair.

In summary, prior to 1854 Nebraska had only very small settlements with limited retail activity. These settlements were composed of trading posts, military forts and stage stations which offered services to transients traveling through the state. Washington County, due to its location, was the site of numerous trading posts. After 1854 permanent settlers came into the state, including Washington County, founding many new towns. Settlements formed before the coming of the railroad used all possible means to attract rail services. It was believed the railroad was an essential ingredient to the success of the town and therefore caused intense competition for rail services.

Growth and Prosperity, 1869-1919

The period of growth and prosperity saw the founding of several new communities in Washington County and subsequent retail growth reaching a peak during these years. The business districts of all Washington County towns was substantially completed during this time. Within this 50-year time frame there were periods of greater and lesser prosperity. Changes in retailing included a greater variety of consumer goods available, growth in the size of individual retail outlets, as well as a larger number of retail outlets from which to purchase goods. Three new organizational types of retailing had their roots in this period. The chain store, mail order and the department store, which required a certain population threshold, were retail innovations of this time (McNair, 1976).

The establishment of the railroad was central to retail growth. The establishment of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad line from Blair to Fremont in 1869 marks the beginning of the period. Settlers were anxious to have the railroad come through their town. This was seen as a key to the growth and survival of the community. In order to finance construction and create markets for themselves, the railroads promoted settlement in Nebraska. Promotion occurred not only in the East but in Europe as well. The population of Washington County grew from 1,249 residents in 1860 to 4,452 in 1870 and to 8,631 in 1880.

Several towns in Washington County were founded by the railroad. Subsequent building in these rail towns was usually initiated by the profit motive of capitalists based on the presence of rail services (Crist, 1962). Blair serves as an example of this interest in investment. The town was founded in 1869 and according to Rhoades, 30 or more businesses had sprung up within a few months. Washington Street, Blair's "Main Street," was solidly filled with small wooden buildings housing different kinds of businesses. The railroads made it possible for these stores to stock a larger quantity and wider variety of goods much more economically than if they had been brought in by steamboat than overland.

For a more detailed look at retailing in Washington County, the Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory was consulted. Three years were chosen for comparison. The 1879 issue was the earliest available. The 1902-03 represented retailing at the turn of the century and the years of the second building phase in Blair as identified by Johnson. The 1917 issue represented retailing toward the end of the period of growth and prosperity. Numbers and types of retail businesses in Arlington, Blair, Desoto, Fontanelle, Fort Calhoun and Herman were compared. The number and variety of retail establishments grew in all towns except Desoto and Fontanelle (see following tables).

Arlington Retailers Listed in the
Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory

<u>Bell Creek*</u> 1879	<u>Arlington</u> 1902-03	<u>Arlington</u> 1917
1 shoemaker		1 shoemaker
2 dry goods		
1 lumber	3 lumber	2 lumber
1 drugs	2 drugs	2 drugs
2 blacksmith & implements	6 blacksmiths & implements	3 blacksmiths & implements
1 meat market	1 meat market	2 meat markets
1 wagon maker		
2 grain		
1 harness, livery	2 harness, livery	1 harness, livery
	4 general merchandise	4 general merchandise
	1 restaurant	
	1 nursery	1 nursery
	1 racket store	
	2 millinery	
	2 saloons	
	1 hardware	1 hardware
	2 jewelry	
		1 notions
		2 autos
		1 ice
		1 baker
		1 garage

*The name of Bell Creek was changed to Arlington.

Desoto Retailers Listed in the
Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory

<u>1879</u>	<u>1902-03</u>	<u>1917</u>
dry goods	2 general merchandise	
		blacksmith
		grocer

Fontanelle Retailers Listed in the
Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory

<u>1879</u>	<u>1902-03</u>	<u>1917</u>
1 dry goods, groceries		
hardware		
1 harness maker		
1 drugs		
1 blacksmith	1 blacksmith	1 blacksmith
	1 shoemaker	
	1 wagon maker	
	1 general merchandise	
		1 bicycle repair

Fort Calhoun Retailers Listed in the
Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory

<u>1879</u>	<u>1902-03</u>	<u>1917</u>
2 dry goods		
1 carpenter		
2 blacksmiths	2 blacksmiths	3 blacksmiths
	2 saloons	2 saloons
	1 livestock dealer	
	2 general merchandise	2 general merchandise
	1 ag implements	1 ag implements
	1 meat	
	1 dressmaker	
	1 grain	
	1 florist	
		1 drugs
		1 livery
		1 baker
		1 confectionery
		1 lumber

Herman Retailers Listed in the
Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory

<u>1879</u>	<u>1902-03</u>	<u>1917</u>
2 dry goods, groceries		
1 harness maker	1 harness maker	1 harness maker
1 blacksmith & implements	5 blacksmiths & implements	3 blacksmiths & implements
	3 general merchandise	6 general merchandise
	2 saloons	1 saloon
	2 drugs	1 drug
	1 grain	1 grain dealer
	2 shoemakers	
	1 livery	1 livery
	2 lumber	3 lumber
	3 livestock	
	1 restaurant	2 restaurants
	2 hardware	1 hardware
	1 pool & lunch	1 pool & lunch
	1 meat	1 meat
		1 confectionery
		1 stationary
		1 jewelry
		1 shoes
		1 autos
		1 produce
		1 clothing
		1 millinery

Retailing during the years surveyed can generally be characterized as small-scale specialty shops. In the 1879 Gazetteer listings of the smaller towns, the most common type retail establishment was the dry goods store. This, along with blacksmiths, livery and harness shops substantially made up the retail inventory. In Blair by 1879 there was already a considerable variety of retail outlets. Furniture, jewelry, confectionery and millinery stores were listed. A greater variety of essentials were available in the grocery stores, meat market, drug and hardware stores.

By 1903 increased availability of producers' goods such as lumber and agricultural implements was evidenced. Small-scale producers' items

made on the premises such as the shoemaker, dressmaker and carpet weaver were listed. All Washington County towns surveyed had increased numbers of dry goods stores, restaurants and saloons. Blair saw increased numbers in previously listed retail categories plus many new ones. Non-essentials such as pianos and organs began to appear.

The 1917 listings saw additional numbers and types of retail establishments in all towns except Desoto and Fontanelle. Dry goods stores, which were presumedly incorporated under the general merchandise heading, were the only type of retailing eliminated from the listings. Blair and Arlington both featured the new category of automobile in the listings.

As populations of towns and surrounding rural areas increased, new markets were created. New types of goods, such as automobiles, came to take their place in the retail community alongside the more traditional blacksmith shop.

The small-scale, local, specialized retailing typical of the period was joined by three new innovations that developed nationally during the period. The department store required a certain population threshold that no town in Washington County met. Chain stores developed when it was widely perceived that wholesaling and retailing could be combined under one management thus permitting economies of scale the independent retailer could not match. Food stores in the East were the first chains developed. Familiar names such as Walgreens, Kresges and Western Auto were early chains of the period. The general mail order business was an innovation in retailing which was a departure from small-scale specialty shops. A wide variety of consumer goods was made available through catalogs. Orders were received and delivered through the mail. Sears and Montgomery Ward were the major retailers of this type with no major competitors (McNair, 1976). Mail order made a wide variety of goods available to inhabitants of sparsely populated areas such as Washington County. Research through newspaper advertisements and other sources to determine when this type of retailing appeared in the county.

The larger quantity and variety of retail goods was made available in towns largely due to ease of rail transportation. Other factors also

influenced the growth and prosperity of retailing. The rural community was becoming less self-sufficient and traveling to town to purchase articles once made at home. Advertising in local newspapers also helped create a demand for consumer goods.

The period of growth and prosperity in retailing ends with the close of World War I and the emergence of the automobile as a major factor in where people did their shopping.

Consolidation, 1920-1945

Although some businesses prospered, the 1920's and 1930's were difficult times for the farmers and the whole state's economy suffered. By the beginning of this period, the major phase of retail construction was completed in Washington County. A major shift in where people did their shopping was taking place at the beginning of this period.

Much of the information contained in this section is generalized from events taking place in southeastern Nebraska due to the absence of published data on the northeastern Nebraska area. Population centers depend in large part on ease of transportation to that center. When country roads were poor and the chief means of transportation was the horse and buggy, time and the difficulties of the journey played a large part in determining where people went to trade.

The development and distribution of the automobile in the first quarter of the 20th century effected a revolution in the means of transportation. The earliest owners of automobiles were well-to-do city dwellers. Beginning in about 1917, widespread distribution of the automobile in rural areas began to take place. This had a considerable effect on where the rural population went to do its shopping. The automobile enabled people to go five times as far in an hour as with a horse-drawn wagon. A trip that formerly required a long arduous day could be made more comfortably in only a few hours (Committee on Business Research, 1927).

Washington County seems to follow the pattern outlined above. The 1917 Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory lists automobile dealerships in Blair and Arlington. The first Chevrolet agency opened in

Blair in 1917 and expanded into a larger two-story building a year later. Another event associated with the age of the automobile in Washington County is the brick paving of Washington Street in Blair in 1919. An associated event was the initiation of bus service between Blair and Omaha in 1921. Only 10 years earlier the railroad had sold 24,000 passenger tickets annually for travel between Blair and Omaha (Johnson, 1976, pp. 7-8).

The Committee on Business Research at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln's study on the "Influence of Automobiles and Roads on Retail Trade Centers" found the population in southeastern Nebraska to be shifting between 1910 and 1920. The population of towns and villages under 1,000 were decreasing in population while places above 1,000 in population were increasing. The study found the sale of less staple articles, those the purchase of which demands some choice, decreased in smaller trading centers. Smaller towns lost furniture, jewelry, millinery, and like shops after the widespread distribution of the auto occurred. Towns under 500 population continued to hold trade in staple and convenience goods yet even a portion of that was lost to larger centers. Towns with a population from 500 to 1,000 held on to trade in staples somewhat better, and to some extent gain at the expense of smaller towns nearby (Committee on Business Research, 1927, p. 57).

Towns that offered the greatest choice in available goods grew as people were able to travel more easily to these towns to make their purchases. As the market increased, an even greater variety of goods was made available through increased competition. These trends seem to hold up in Washington County as evidenced in a survey of the numbers of businesses listed in the Nebraska Gazetteer and Business Directory for several of the years during this period. Retailing in Blair continued to grow while retailing in the smaller towns of Washington County declined or remained fairly steady.

It can be concluded that the automobile and the improvement in roads profoundly affected the distances people traveled and consequently their shopping habits.

Modern Era, 1945-Present

Following World War II trends established in the previous phase continued at an increased pace. Downtown businesses declined, even in the largest towns and cities as the population shifted to the suburbs. This has impacted Washington County since the southeastern portion is a virtual suburb of Omaha. Large shopping malls and discount store chains typical of the era are located within an easy drive of Blair and vicinity. The effects on Blair's retailing have been mitigated by the presence of Dana College students as a market. Johnson reports that retail trends in Washington County follow trends in national farm income and population growth. Retailing and wholesaling occupied about 19% of the workforce of the county. Strip development as characteristic of the period has developed in Blair along the major entrances to the city. These are characterized by fast food restaurants, convenience stores, automobile-related businesses and the like. Recently, there has been a resurgence of the small-scale specialty shop (McNair, 1976). These have been established in shopping malls and downtowns alike. Blair's "Main Street" has been a beneficiary of this trend.

Personages

The persons listed in the following section were important to the retail commerce sector of Washington County's economy. The influence went beyond a single town to a regional significance.

Crowell Family

The Crowell family and their lumber, grain, and elevator businesses were prominently associated with the early development and commercial growth of the city of Blair for 70 years. The first Crowell associated with Nebraska was Prince S. Crowell, grandfather of the subject, who was one of the Massachusetts investors who assisted John I. Blair in financing the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad in Iowa and its Nebraska connection, the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad. John I. Blair founded the town which bears his name in 1869 as a railroad town between the Iowa border and Fremont.

C. C. Crowell, Sr. (1844-1910), son of Prince Crowell, came to Blair in the same year as the city's founding, and engaged in the grain business. A lumber business was added in later years, and the Crowell Lumber and Grain Company grew extensively under his management, becoming the largest such operation in the area. It and the subsequent grain elevator company eventually operated lumber yards and elevators at 15 different locations along the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad (Buss and Osterman, p. 858).

His son, Christopher Columbus Crowell, Jr. (1874-1943), inherited the management of both companies and expanded the businesses until there were 23 branches in eastern Nebraska. He was born and educated in Blair. During the 1890's, he managed the branch office at Newman Grove, but in 1901 he returned to Blair and constructed this house for his young family. He was also prominent in civic affairs.

By their size, the Crowell Lumber & Grain Co. and the Crowell Elevator Co. were of major commercial importance to eastern Nebraska during the lifetimes of C. C. Crowell, Sr. and Jr. (Excerpted from Chatfield (Sodhi), Penelope. "C. C. Crowell, Jr. House (WNO2-3), Blair, Nebraska" National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form. Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society, January, 1981.)

Marshall Nurseries

The Marshall Nurseries is by far the most important single industry of Arlington and Washington County may feel proud of such a splendid firm. In the year 1887, the Marshall brothers, Chester C. and George A., began planting trees and seeds on their farms, two miles east of Arlington.

There was still a great need for more trees in Washington County and to supply this need was the aim of the Marshall brothers. They planned to be successful at home, then expand into new territory, so they organized on a partnership basis under the name of Marshall Brothers. The firm was an immediate success, not only shipping to Washington County, but to the neighboring counties and states as well. At the present time the entire Midwest is their territory.

A brother, H. W. Marshall, was added to the firm in 1890 and in 1907 C. C. Marshall retired from an active part in the firm, but retained his holdings. The business was incorporated in 1916, under the name of Marshalls Nurseries. There was a fine spacious building erected in 1916, and in 1918, this was enlarged to meet the increased business demands. The main frost-proof warehouse which is one and a half to two stories high covers a space of 140 by 160 feet.

The Marshalls Nurseries Company has two diplomas received from the Paris Exposition for apples displayed there and also a gold medal awarded them for fruit displayed at the Omaha (Trans-Mississippi) exposition. They have government diplomas for fruit displays at the St. Louis and Buffalo expositions. Other prizes have also been won by them, including eight sweepstakes in 9 years from the Nebraska State Fairs.

President of the firm in 1937, George A. Marshall, is one of the outstanding authorities on horticulture in Nebraska and the Middle West. Mr. Marshall acted as a grower and salesman of nursery stock from 1887 until 1901.

H. W. Marshall, after completing a business college course, spent the earlier part of his activities as head of the office and sales management, and now, with his nephew, Maurice Marshall, is managing the company's operations at the Omaha plant.

Chester G. Marshall, a nephew of the brothers, has been a life-time resident of Nebraska and has been active as a horticulture executive for many years.

Vernon Marshall was born on the nursery and developed an early liking for nursery field work as well as general horticulture. After completing his high school work, he graduated from the School of Agriculture at the University of Nebraska, and completed a business college course after which he became field manager and fitted himself into all branches of nursery and orchard work.

Maurice N. Marshall, youngest son of George A. Marshall, grew up on the nurseries. He was graduated from Grinnell College in 1926 and then took a year of graduate work at Iowa State College, specializing in landscape architecture. (Excerpted from Shrader, Forrest B. A History

of Washington County, Nebraska. Omaha: Magic Printing Company, 1937, pp. 148-154.)

Locational Patterns

With the exception of Washington County's two crossroads stores, the commercial retail buildings are located within towns. The majority of these are located on "Main Street." Retail enterprises such as lumber yards, implement and automobile dealerships and service stations which require more space than the average commercial lot tend to be located on the fringes of the central business districts. "Commercial strips" developed along major entrances into towns and are typical of newer retail development which is a lower priority because of the 50-year limit of the preservation program.

Property Types

Longstreth asserts the growth of commercial architecture was nowhere more intense and rich than in the U.S. The rise of America as a major economic power was closely related to the settlement of the country and the enormous growth of the population. As private enterprise was the principal generator of the nation's development, so commercial architecture played a central role in defining the character of its settlements. Town building preoccupied a large portion of the westward moving populace. The size and extent of commercial buildings in a community served as an index of that town's achievements and potential. Even in the smallest, crudest towns many of the first and finest permanent buildings were commercial buildings. These commercial buildings were generally clustered in a core area. This core area was important to the town's identity, but also provided a focal point for the town's activities--"Main Street" (Longstreth, 1981, pp. 1-2).

As noted earlier, the first buildings erected in Washington County towns were of wood frame construction. Many of these were small one-story false fronts which gave a feeling of urbanity to the town. Beginning in the 1870's these buildings began to be replaced by brick structures. Several factors were involved in this evolution of the

towns. Stoehr suggests that as the town's wealth increased the urban image produced by the false front was no longer necessary since new buildings constructed had the necessary urban qualities. Perantoni also suggests that as a community prospered the store owners could afford craftsmen and materials which were better suited to other stylistic methods. The fire-resistant qualities of brick were yet another reason for choosing brick. Technological and transportation advances played a major role in shaping the image of the retail core. The false front retail form continued to play an important role in less prosperous towns and in isolated crossroads stores.

The crossroads stores of Orum and Telbasta retain their past appearance as isolated false front commercial buildings. This type of retail establishment tended to play a greater role than simply the supply of goods. They were the heart of a rural community, a place where neighbors came to socialize, to get mail and newspapers as well as to purchase necessary staples and feed.

The decade of the 1880's was a decade of crucial development in Washington County as it was in the rest of the state. Eastern capitalists were investing in the state, immigration was high and the farm economy was strong. All these factors contributed to a building boom, the most rapid urban growth ever experienced in Nebraska either before or since. In 1882 a total of 125 buildings were built in Blair. According to Johnson, construction of the railroad bridge across the Missouri River in 1883 added more fuel to Blair's and the county's economy.

In the wake of the agricultural depression of the 1890's, population and economic growth tapered off, although some building continued. Johnson identifies a second building phase in Blair as occurring about 1903-04. In 1903 businesses began to replace wooden sidewalks with concrete, a sign that business was prospering.

The process of change in Washington County towns is illustrated by the maps prepared by the Sanborn Insurance Company for Arlington and Blair. The transition from predominantly one-story wood structures to two-story brick structures is documented. This transition occurred

gradually between the 1880's and early part of the 20th century. In both communities the basic retail core was established very early and gradually expanded.

The most common compositional type of commercial building in Washington County is the two-part commercial block as defined by Longstreth. It was the most common compositional type for small and moderate size buildings throughout the county. Its versatility in accommodating a wide range of functions was responsible for its popularity. These buildings were generally two to four stories and divided horizontally into two distinct zones. The lower zone was typically a public space with retail stores, banking rooms, or offices. The upper zone was typically a more private space with offices, apartments or fraternal organization halls (Longstreth, 1981, p. 6).

The mass manufacture of building products, including ornament, and the creation of new materials enabled thousands of buildings to possess a distinctive appearance at a more moderate cost than previously possible. Mass-produced pressed metal ornamentation such as window hoods, cornices and crowns as well as glass display windows were brought in by rail. Local manufacture of brick and cast iron were also important in the construction of retail structures.

The individuality of the emporiums and offices that lined "Main Street" was as important as their collective image Facades served as advertisements for the businesses within. Small and large buildings alike were often conceived as monuments to the industriousness of the men who commissioned them. "Main Street" rapidly grew to be a collage, offering a great spectrum of images (Longstreth, 1981, p. 2).

In this respect, the commercial retail buildings of Washington County are typical of their time.

Current Condition of Property Types

Commercial retail property types are useful buildings. The changing nature of retailing has had a profound impact on these buildings. For most "Main Street" commercial buildings, the brick two-part commercial block has served quite well. The expense involved in constructing new buildings has led to a long established tradition of reuse and remodeling. Retailers have traditionally been concerned with appearing up-to-date, displaying the most current merchandise and retailing methods. This has especially been reflected in modifications to the street facade. Early remodelings may have included installation of small leaded glass panes in the transoms of buildings as was fashionable from about 1910 to 1919 (e.g., CC14-20). Slightly later remodelings might have included the boarding of the transom for the placement of additional signage. Later, more extensive remodeling of storefronts at the street level typically included some or all of the following modifications: alteration of recessed entries; of the area below display windows; the covering or removal of cast iron columns; or alterations of the size, or elimination of, display windows. Second story or above modifications typically included some of the following kinds of alterations: boarding or removal of upper story windows; removal of pressed metal ornamentation such as window hoods, cornices or crowns; or application of a new facing material such as stucco or metal. Post-World War II remodelings have generally been more extensive with greater effect on commercial retail buildings than earlier alterations. Recent concern for energy conservation has been another factor in storefront remodelings.

The degree to which alterations have been made to a building's facade impact the idea of integrity. While it is recognized storefronts and the retail enterprises inside are dynamic entities, they must retain a significant level of architectural integrity to be considered for intensive survey. Alterations may be significant to the modern era but are a lower priority because of the 50-year limitations of the preservation program.

Existing Information

The sources used to prepare this paper are listed at the end of the context report. There is a dearth of material on retailing in Nebraska. There are very few theses or published reports on the subject. It was beyond the scope of this project to conduct extensive primary research. Much more work needs to be done in this field.

General works such as Olson's History of Nebraska have provided the general framework for understanding the forces that shaped the state's history. Several works (Bell, Shrader, and Andreas) provided information on local events and personages. General references on retailing were valuable in providing the retail framework and among these McNair was most useful.

Perantoni's thesis on the evolution of general merchandising structures and Longstreth's manuscript on commercial typologies dealt with commercial architecture on a national level.

The University of Nebraska Business College's Committee Report was the most specifically located source used. It was written in 1927, rather close temporally to the time it was analyzing; however, time seems to have established the validity of their conclusions.

Preliminary Inventory and Intensive Data

Preliminary Inventory of Retail Commerce Properties

This preliminary inventory is a list of sites that appear to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the Commercial Retail context.

Retailing is defined as the sale of small quantities of goods to the ultimate consumer. Some types of goods, such as baked goods, are produced on the premises of the retail establishment and then sold to the consumer. Producers' goods are not sold to the ultimate consumer but are intended for production. The sale of seed to a farmer is an example of the sale of producers' goods. All the above types of retailing were considered as contextually related.

The majority of commercial retail establishments are located in the business districts of the towns in the county. Business districts contain commercial functions other than retailing such as banking, manufacturing, or wholesaling. These were not considered to be contextually related and should be subjects of separate contexts.

Sites listed in the preliminary inventory were derived through a multiple-stepped evaluation process subsequent to the reconnaissance-level survey. A total of 43 commercial buildings were surveyed in the reconnaissance phase of the survey.

Survey staff conducted evaluational meetings to determine which commercial retail sites appear to be potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP. All commercial retail sites were compared within the framework of the historic context. The sites contained in this preliminary inventory were judged to exhibit the best qualities of this type of commercial activity. In addition to meeting the commercial retail criteria, these sites appear to be architecturally significant and retain a high degree of integrity. A total of 11 sites appear to be potentially eligible for NRHP listing. Additional information on all sites included in the preliminary inventory is available in the site cards and in the site files located in the Nebraska State Historical Society Preservation Office.

Intensive survey was performed on a small sample of sites to obtain further data. The sample of sites selected for further intensive-level

research was small. This was primarily due to time and economic constraints. Commercial retail buildings selected for possible inclusion in the intensive-level data were evaluated by a site inspection after the initial evaluation. Sites were compared to reveal which would possibly yield the most information on retailing in the county. As a result of the selection process, five commercial retail sites were intensively surveyed. The data on these sites is contained in the Intensive Data section following the preliminary inventory.

Intensively Researched Sites Strongly Suggested for NRHP Listing:

- WN01-30: Marshalls Nurseries (see Intensive Data)
- WN02-8: The Pilot Building (see Intensive Data)
- WN02-16: The Beyer Building (see Intensive Data)
- WN08-1: Orum Store (see Intensive Data)
- WN10-1: Telbasta Store (see Intensive Data)

Expanded Post-Intensive Inventory of Other Potentially Eligible Sites:

Retail:

Agricultural Industries:

- WN00-214 Tree Nursery farmstead, brick office building (ca. 1910)

General Merchandising:

- WN01-17 False front commercial building (ca. 1880), Arlington
- WN02-18 1883 brick commercial building, Blair
- WN07-6 Two-story brick commercial building, Kennard
- WN07-11 Two-story brick commercial building, Kennard

Specialty Stores:

- WN06-4 Korshoj Lumber Company (ca. 1885), Herman

Summary of Retail Commerce Intensive Properties

All commercial retail sites selected for intensive research were constructed during the period of growth and prosperity (1870-1919) in Washington County. They are representative of several types of retail operations and building types but all retain a relatively high degree of architectural integrity.

The crossroads store buildings at Orum (WN08-1) and Telbasta (WN10-1) are notable examples of a type of retailing typical of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In a time when transportation was much more time consuming than today these general stores provided essential supplies, including feed and seed, to farmers who lived nearby. These modest frame false fronts were a hallmark of a retailing in the West.

Advances in transportation, building technology, the refinement of materials and available funds made the construction of more substantial buildings possible. The Beyer Bakery Building (WN02-16) is an example of a type of retailing in which goods were produced for sale to the consumer. The building is a two-part commercial block which is the most common commercial retail configuration. The cast iron columns and pressed metal window hoods and cornice are typical of the time (ca. 1898-1902) in which it was constructed. The Pilot Building (WN02-8) was constructed as a newspaper, retail, office building in 1891. The unique rectangular one-story with raised basement corner commercial building has a romanesque front entrance and horseshoe arched side entrance to the newspaper office. Both of the above sites are examples of buildings constructed to express the owners' pride in their businesses and confidence in their community.

The Marshall Nursery Building (WN01-30) is a slightly different example of a commercial retail structure in that it combines retailing with warehousing. It is a very large building to accommodate these functions. It is also an example of a building constructed to express the owners' pride in their business and confidence in the community.

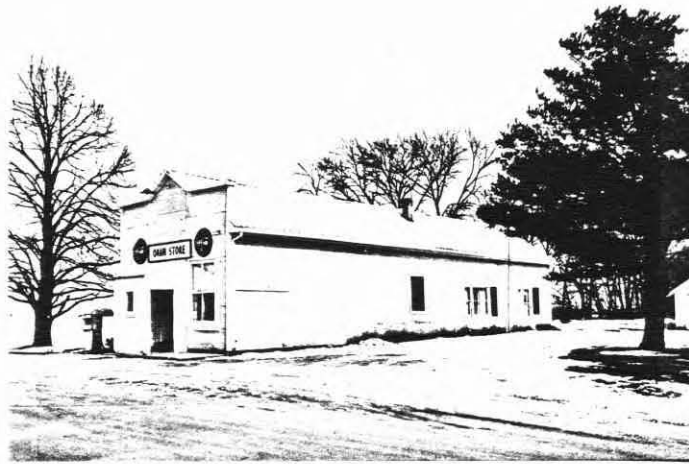
As business needs changed many of the commercial retail buildings in Washington County towns were remodeled. The alterations of facades of commercial retail buildings have, in many cases, resulted in the loss of the buildings' architectural integrity. The outcome of this has been the number of commercial retail sites selected for intensive survey was smaller than anticipated.

WN08-1 The Orum Store



Architectural Description

As one of only two extant examples of a rural general store, the Orum Store represents a rare link of the present to the past. Constructed of wood frame and originally sheathed in clapboard, the false front facade of the Orum Store shields an engaged gable roof structure. Rectangular in shape and oriented on an east-west axis, the store measures 21.6 m by 6.4 m. The original portion constructed by Niels Andersen in 1885 and located in the east (rear), measures 10.3 m by 6.4 m. The front or west portion of the store added by James Christensen in 1904 measures 11.3 m by 6.4 m and includes the false front. The building is protected by a gable roof which engages into the back of the false front to form a central gable in the facade. Entry to the store is gained through a central door which is now covered by a boxed wind shelter addition. Large 2 over 2 windows flank the entrance to the north and south. Compromises in integrity are found in the 1954 application of pressed-tin siding and the covering of a large 2 over 2 double window located in the gable of the false front. Originally comprised entirely of retail space, the rear 11.3 m of the store was converted in 1954 to a residence and a small shed addition was placed on the northeast corner for increased living space. There is no extant physical evidence of the original spatial layout of the retail area. Also contributing to the site are a garage and combination garage-workshed. Exhibiting a greater degree of significance, the garage-workshed is located behind the store to the north and east and measures 13.7 m by 4.6 m. The front half was purportedly built by Robert Orum ca. 1890 with the rear half constructed by Jens Hansen in 1945.



Historical Summary

Originating in Andersenville, the Orum Store was moved several times before establishing itself at its present location. Robert Orum, a Danish immigrant for whom a village was named, had carried on a brief trade in Andersenville with Niels Andersen before purchasing his business in 1890. Having bought the business, Mr. Orum moved the store, built by Andersen in 1885, 3/4 miles east and 1/2 south of Andersenville to the present town of Orum. He operated the store until 1893, during which time a post office was established.

With a loan from James C. Christensen, C. M. Herre bought the business in 1893 and ran the store for one year before selling his interests back to Christensen. Assuming Herre's 10-year lease, Christensen returned from a business start in Newman Grove to "temporarily" run the store. Christensen then moved the store 1/4 mile north to its present location and turned the building 1/4 to the west. He also built a 37-foot addition to the front in 1904. Fifty-two years later Christensen's temporary business was sold to Gus Rolland, who in turn sold the store to Mr. and Mrs. Jens Hansen in 1954. The Hansen's operated the store in connection with a plumbing and construction business until the death of Mr. Hansen. Now the only rural store in business in the county, Mrs. Hansen still offers small groceries and "sundries" to her customers.

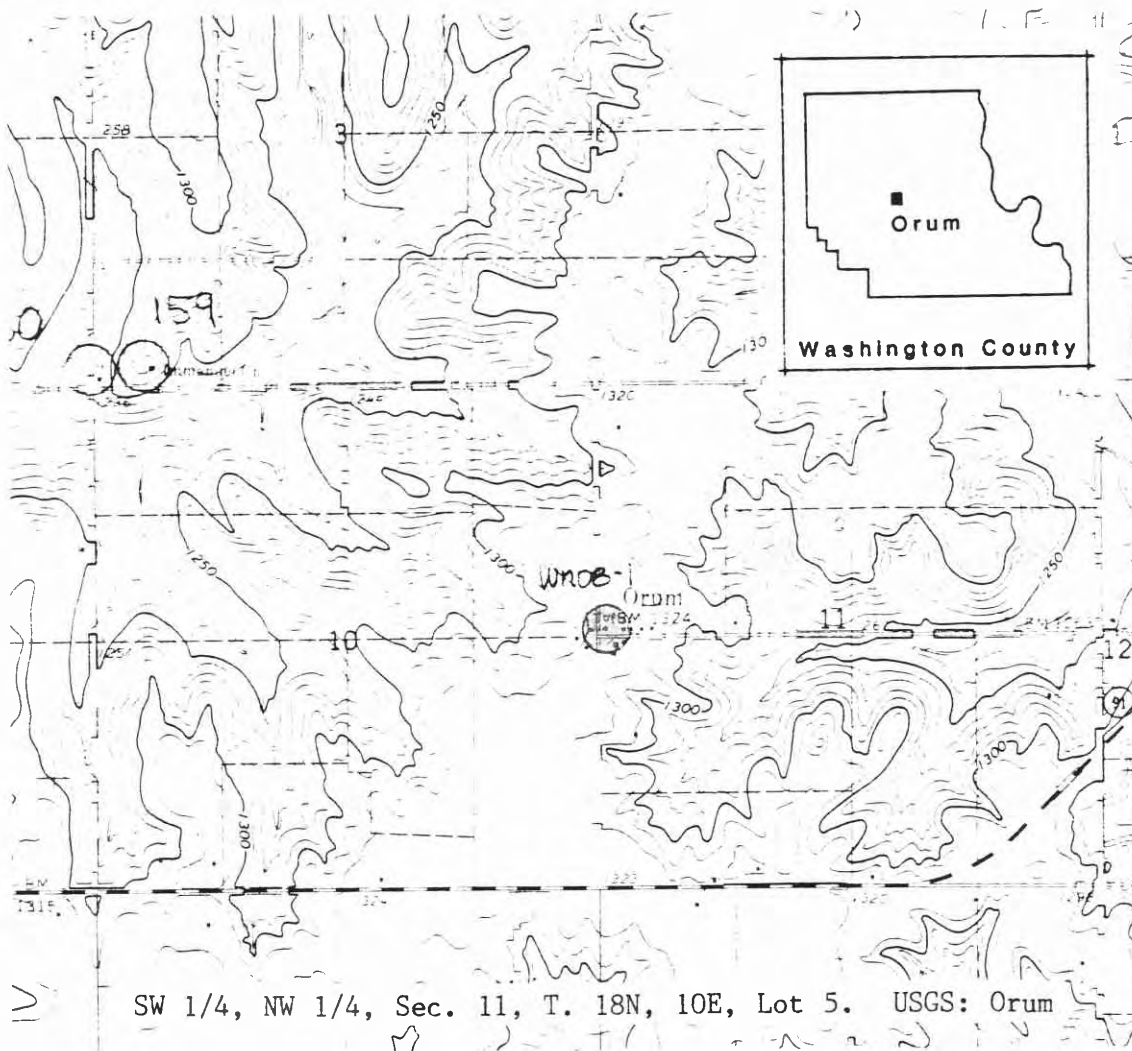
Retail Commerce

WN08-1 The Orum Store

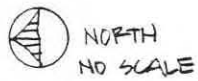
Relation to Historic Context

This store is a relatively rare surviving example of a crossroads general store, a retail type from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These modest wood frame false front buildings provided basic supplies to rural residents in a time when transportation to town was more time consuming than today.

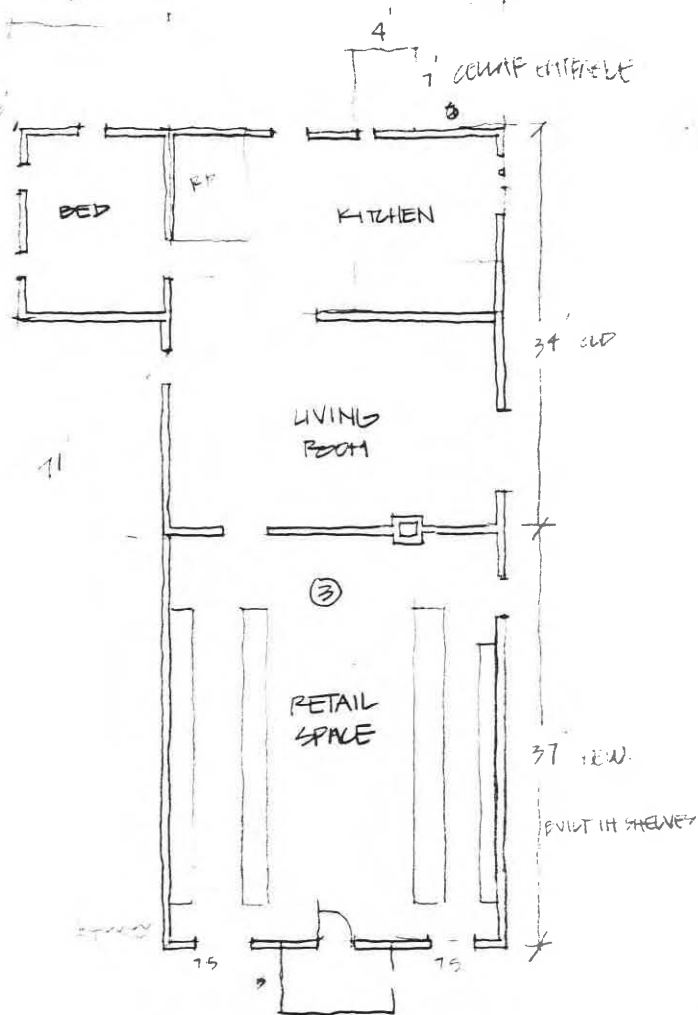
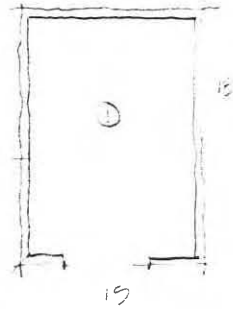
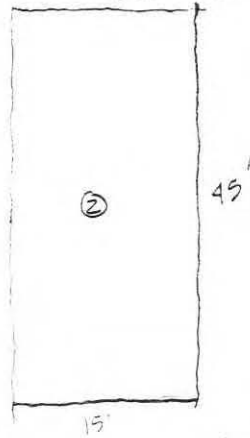
Rural Location



WINDS - 1 ADDITION
WASHINGTON CO. DE.
FEB. 20, 1986
DRAWN BY: LINDA HOFFMAN
JOHN FAY



1. GARAGE
2. GARAGE/WORKSHOP
3. DRUM STORE



100'

WN10-1 The Telbasta Store



Architectural Description

The Telbasta Store, one of the two remaining physical examples in the county of a rural general store, symbolizes an architectural image which no longer exists. The aesthetic of the false front facade is synonymous with the sole proprietors who supplied goods to the settlers of the Great Plains. The Telbasta Store is one such example and is characterized by its large semicircular false front facade. The false front shields a long rectangular wood frame structure measuring 9.1 m by 21.3 m and is protected by a gable roof which engages into the back of the semicircular false front. The original rectangular portion of the store appears today with a side false front addition. The addition, constructed somewhere between 1905 and 1920, is smaller in both height and depth than it's older partner. The addition appears to have functioned as a feed and seed storage with evidence of side loading doors and dock. Unlike the Orum Store (WN08-1), the Telbasta Store has an attached hipped roof frontal porch which protects a wood-plank walkway extending out from the original 1904 structure. The walkway extends unprotected to the end of the side addition despite the absence of any interior access through the addition. Interior access is gained through a central pair of double doors which are then flanked on each side by large 2 over 2 windows used for displaying merchandise. The Telbasta Store currently functions as an antique store and consequently the interior arrangement of retail spaces are no longer evident. The store does contain, however, several rows of shelving running the entire distance of the original east and west walls.



Historical Summary

Early in Washington County history, several post offices were initiated at selected crossroads remote from established towns. It was common to see one or two businesses attracted to these areas as they attempted to cater to those who came in for their mail. In some instances, an established store would house the post office. The Telbasta store was one such business.

Conrad Fulrodt opened the original Telbasta store in 1880 and shortly after established a post office there. Upon the death of Mr. Fulrodt in 1891, Mr. Bovee ran the store until 1894 when the building was purchased by the P. Z. Wilson Company of Arlington.

Edward Schafersman was hired to operate the branch store of the P. Z. Wilson Company until fire destroyed the building in 1903. In the spring of 1904, Henry Meierhenry built the present Telbasta store for Mr. Schafersman who in 1905 went into partnership with John Strenger. From 1905 to 1920 it was known as the Schafersman-Strenger store. A feed storage shed and loading dock were part of the first addition to the store in 1904. A second addition was made in 1930. Upon Mr. Schafersman's death in 1937, sons Clarence and Chester operated the store until October 15, 1959, when the store was forced to close due to business pressures. The building remained in the Schafersman family after the 1959 closing and in 1978 Leroy Schafersman reopened the store as an antique shop, open year-round except Christmas to May.

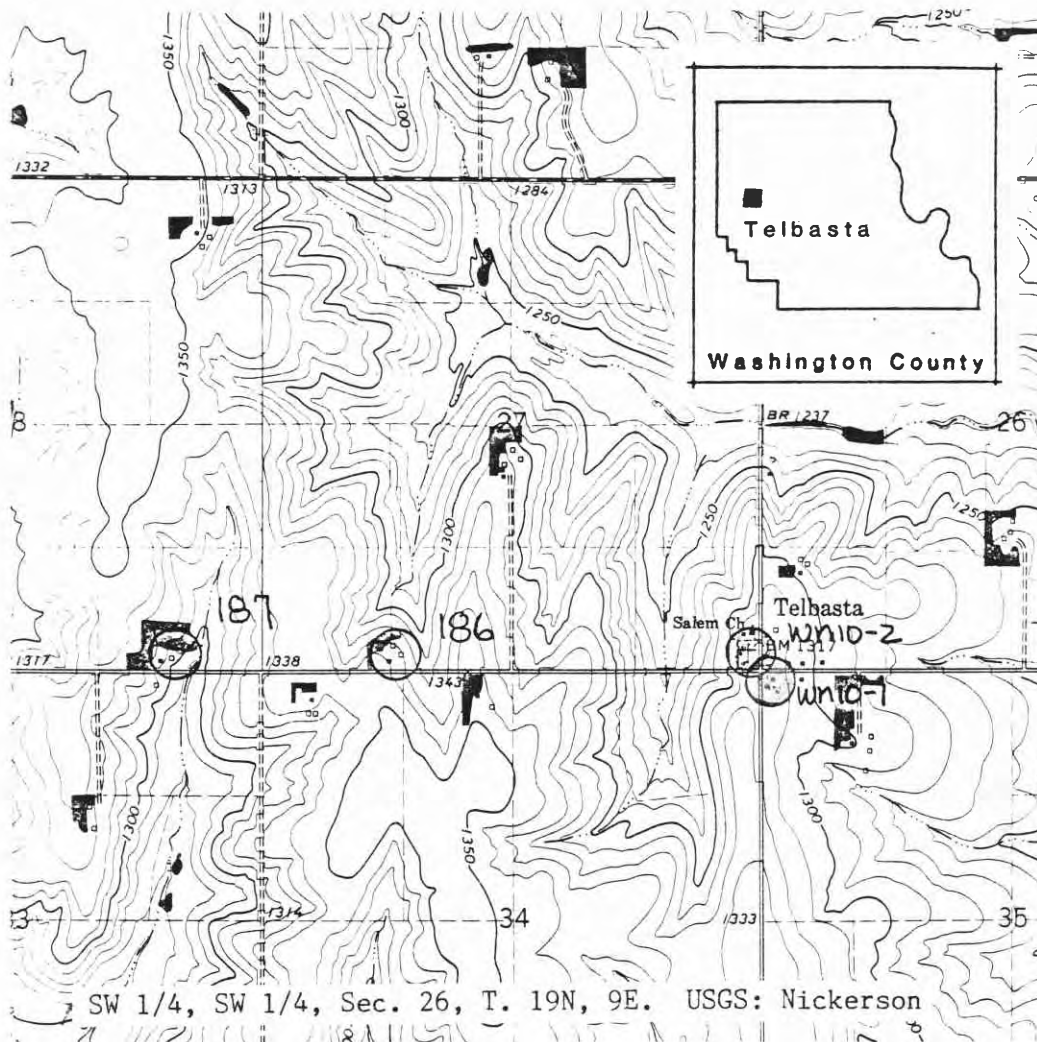
Retail Commerce

WN10-1 The Telbasta Store

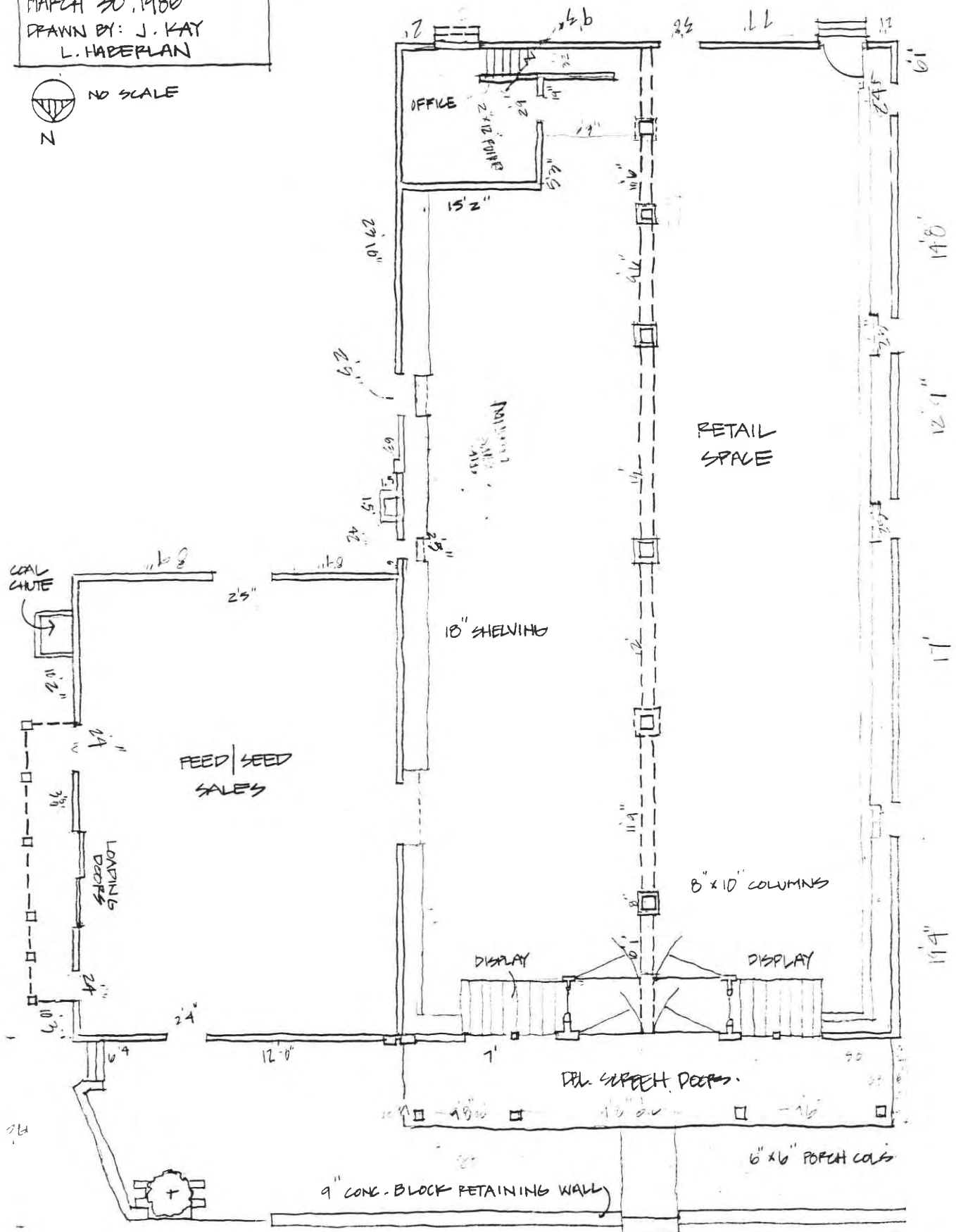
Relation to Historic Context

This store is a relatively rare surviving example of a crossroads general store, a retail type from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These modest wood frame false front buildings provided basic supplies to rural residents in a time when transportation was more time consuming than today.

Rural Location



NO SCALE



WNO1-30

The Marshalls Nurseries



Architectural Description

Founded in the spring of 1887 by George and Chester Marshall, the Marshall Brothers Nursery (later Marshall's Nurseries) developed into one of Nebraska's leading commercial agriculture industries. The first permanent home of the Marshall's Nurseries was constructed in 1915 and consisted of a two-story brick building measuring 15.25 m by 28 m. This building provided multiple functions with space provided for the handling, packing and frost-proof storage of nursery stock. In addition, this facility provided office space for the administration of the Marshall's expanding business. Architecturally, this building is simple and void of any applied decorative features. The major south and east walls present very clean and clearly functional facades. The office entrance is located on the east facade and is flanked by two windows to the north and four to the south, all with plain stone lintels and sills. Also found on this facade are four second level windows and a large shipping entrance. The south facade consists of five rectangular windows on the east end of the first level with two freight docks located on the west end for access to the storage areas. A continuous pressed metal box cornice spans the upper level of both facades.

By 1917, the Marshall's business had expanded to the point where additional work space had become necessary. The result was the addition of a sloping one and one-half to two-story brick building which engulfed its predecessor on the north and west facades. This addition expanded the 15.25 m dimension of the east wall northwards to an overall size of 49 m. The south facade was likewise increased in a westerly direction from 28 to 43 m. This facility was constructed of clay tile bearing walls and faced with a common bond brick veneer.



Historical Summary

From Hancock County, Ohio, the Benjamin Clark Marshall family moved to a farm near Bell Creek, Nebraska with six sons and three daughters in 1881. Coming from Ohio, young Chester Marshall saw the barren Nebraska landscape as a stark contrast to where he grew up. It was Chester who had the idea that a nursery, where trees could be raised to sell, would be a profitable business. To raise the capital to start such a business, Chester, Harvey and George borrowed \$1,000 each from their father. Chester also homesteaded near Burwell and Ord, Nebraska. After improving the land, Chester sold out and returned to Washington County with the money where he and two brothers bought land 2 miles east of Bell Creek (Arlington) and started Marshall Nurseries in 1887. It was with the help of his two younger brothers, George and Harvey, that Marshall Nurseries was able to flourish.

Business grew steadily over the years for the three Marshall brothers and in 1907 a fourth brother, A. C. Marshall, was added to the firm. In 1915 a modern plant built with brick, tile and insulated walls 18 inches thick, was constructed in Arlington. By 1916 Marshall Nurseries became incorporated and in 1917 an addition was added to the same Arlington plant to handle increased orders in business. Through his immense interest in horticulture, Chester corresponded with various knowledgeable people in the profession. It is said by relatives that Chester often corresponded and visited with Jules Sandoz of Valentine, Nebraska. It is also believed that Buffalo Bill Cody bought trees from the Marshall Brothers Nursery. Among the many outstanding achievements of the nursery, one of the more notable is their landscaping and planting of trees at the Nebraska State Capitol.

Retail Commerce

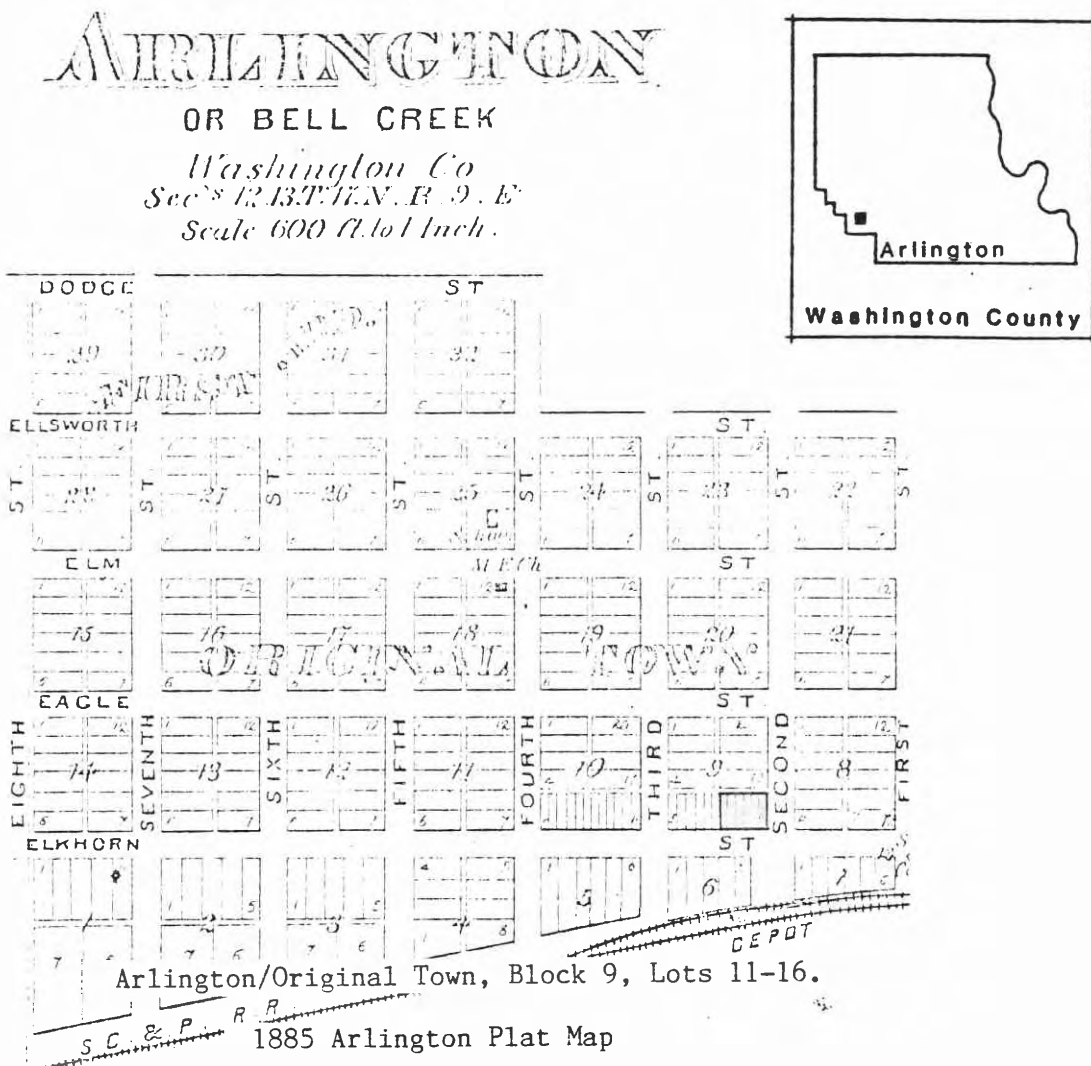
WN01-30

The Marshalls Nurseries

Relation to Historic Context

The large brick building houses both retail and wholesale functions under one roof. Brick buildings were a symbol of confidence and pride in the community. The building was constructed toward the end of the period of growth and prosperity (1870-1919) when the building of the town's commercial buildings was virtually complete.

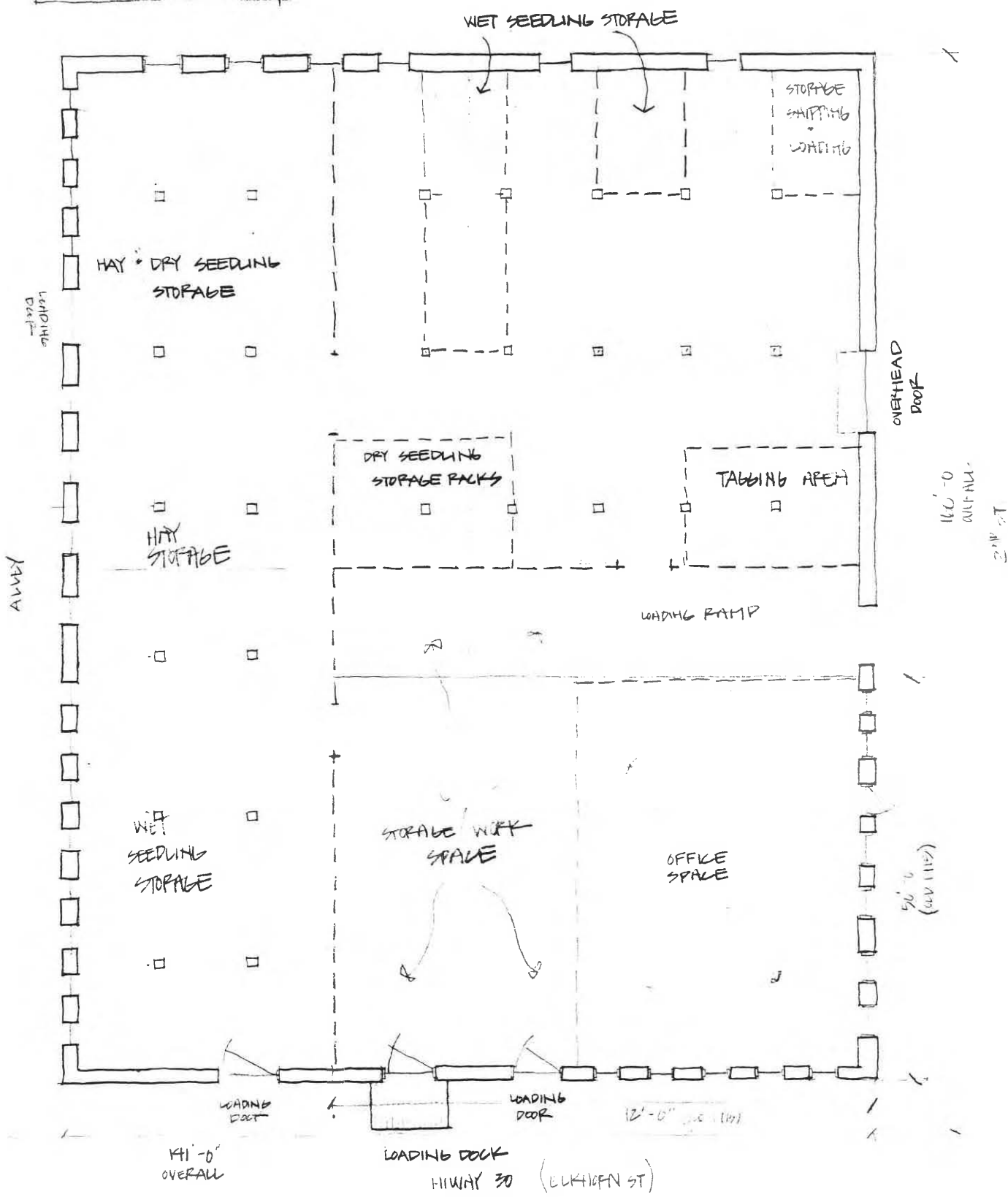
Town Location



WING 1-30: MARSHALL BROS.
 WASHINGTON CO. HISTORIC
 BUILDINGS SURVEY
 DRAWN BY: JOHN KAY
 FEB. 20, 1980 LAFD H&B PLAN

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 NO SCALE

(1 1/2" = 2' STAFF BRICK BLDG. W/ PRESS TIN
 CORNICE, STONE WINDOW LINTELS & SILL) N



WN02-8

The Pilot Building



Architectural Description

Located in the heart of the Blair central business district, the Pilot Building is a significant representative of the historic commercial industry in Washington County. Built in 1891, this one-story structure occupies the southeastern corner commercial lot of the 16th and Washington Street intersection.

Limited to the confines of this corner lot, the Pilot was built in a basic rectangular shape measuring 7.6 m in width and 21.4 m in depth. The Pilot was constructed of common bond brick-bearing walls which rest on a plinth-like base decorated with a series of recessed corbelled panels. Due to its corner lot location, the Pilot presents two "public facades" to the west and north. A large, semicircular structural opening with a recessed entry dominates the front or north facade. Surrounding this semicircular opening is a decorative course of large, rock-faced bricks. Two engaged corner pilasters frame the facade and are topped with ornamental concrete urns. Completing the front is a pressed-metal cornice which spans the pilasters below a corbelled brick parapet. The 16th Street facade is also noted for its distinctive structural and decorative details. Two engaged pilasters divide this facade into three distinct bays which each contain a different decorative application. The most impressive of these is the south bay which contains a horseshoe-shaped structural opening. Surrounding this opening are alternating pairs of rock-faced bricks and within the opening is an original sidelight and semicircular transomed entry.



Historical Summary

The Blair Pilot Building is closely associated with one of the oldest newspapers in Washington County, The Register. Established at Tekamah in Burt County in 1871, J. N. Lambert moved the newspaper to Blair in 1874. After several changes of ownership, The Register became the property of The Pilot Printing Company with L. A. Williams as editor. Now called The Pilot Newspaper, Perry Selden, eventual mayor of Blair, became editor in 1891 and constructed the Pilot Building. In 1929 the newspaper was sold to Alfred O. Sprick who had been a reporter for The Tribune run by Mr. Osterman. The two papers were then consolidated under the Pilot-Tribune name and moved to a new location with Mr. Osterman and Mr. Sprick as proprietors.

In 1929 brothers Reed and Clark O'Hanlon purchased the Pilot Building and established the O'Hanlon and O'Hanlon Law Firm as one of Blair's finest. Now the O'Hanlon Law Office, original members of the family still occupy the building, having kept it in the family for over 57 years. The law office is now run by John R. O'Hanlon, attorney.

Retail Commerce

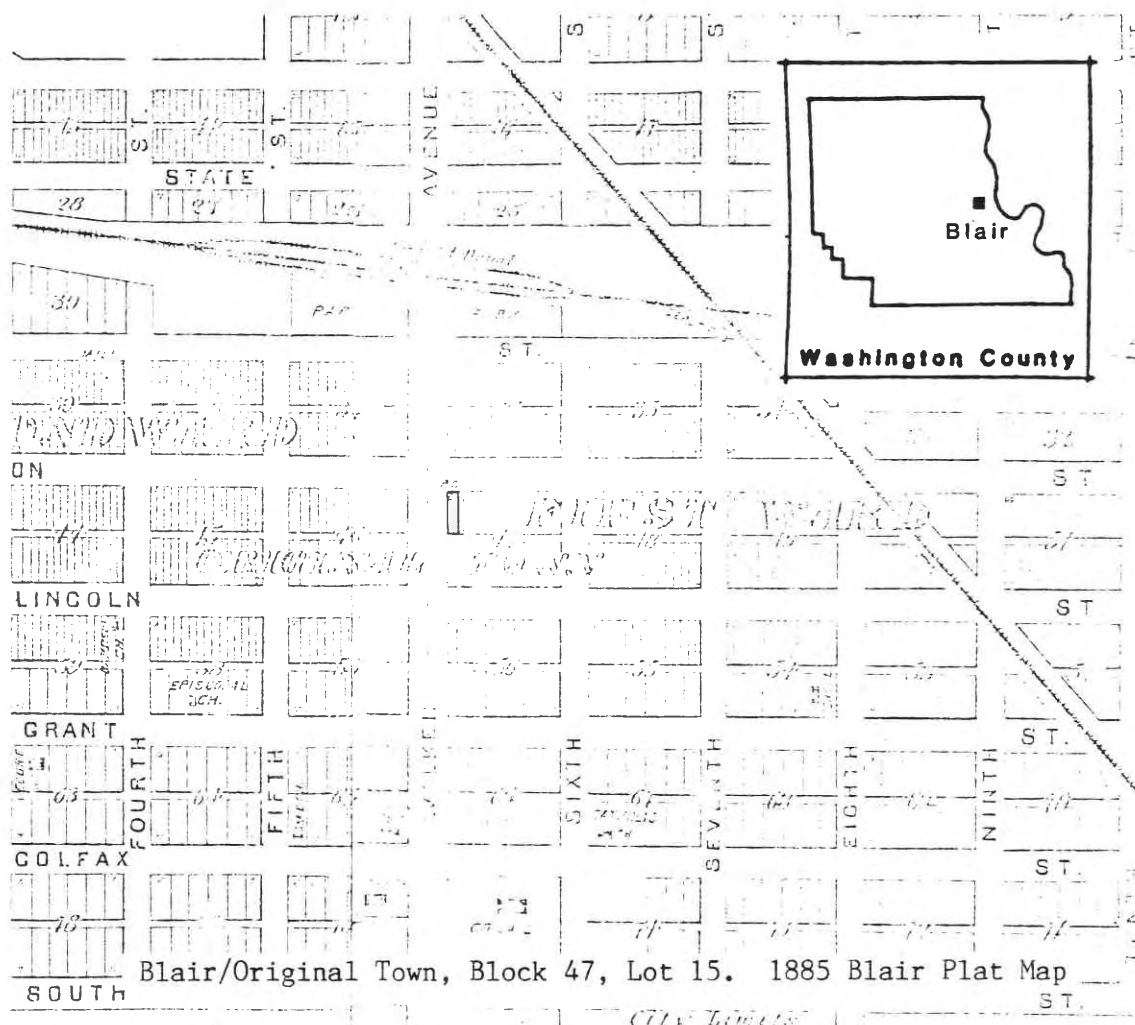
WN02-8

The Pilot Building

Relation to Historic Context

This one-story brick commercial building represents a departure from the typical rectangular storefront entrances. The main entrance is a romanesque arch with a horseshoe arch surrounding the side entrance. It is an example of an owner expressing pride and confidence in the community in an architectural statement.

Town Location



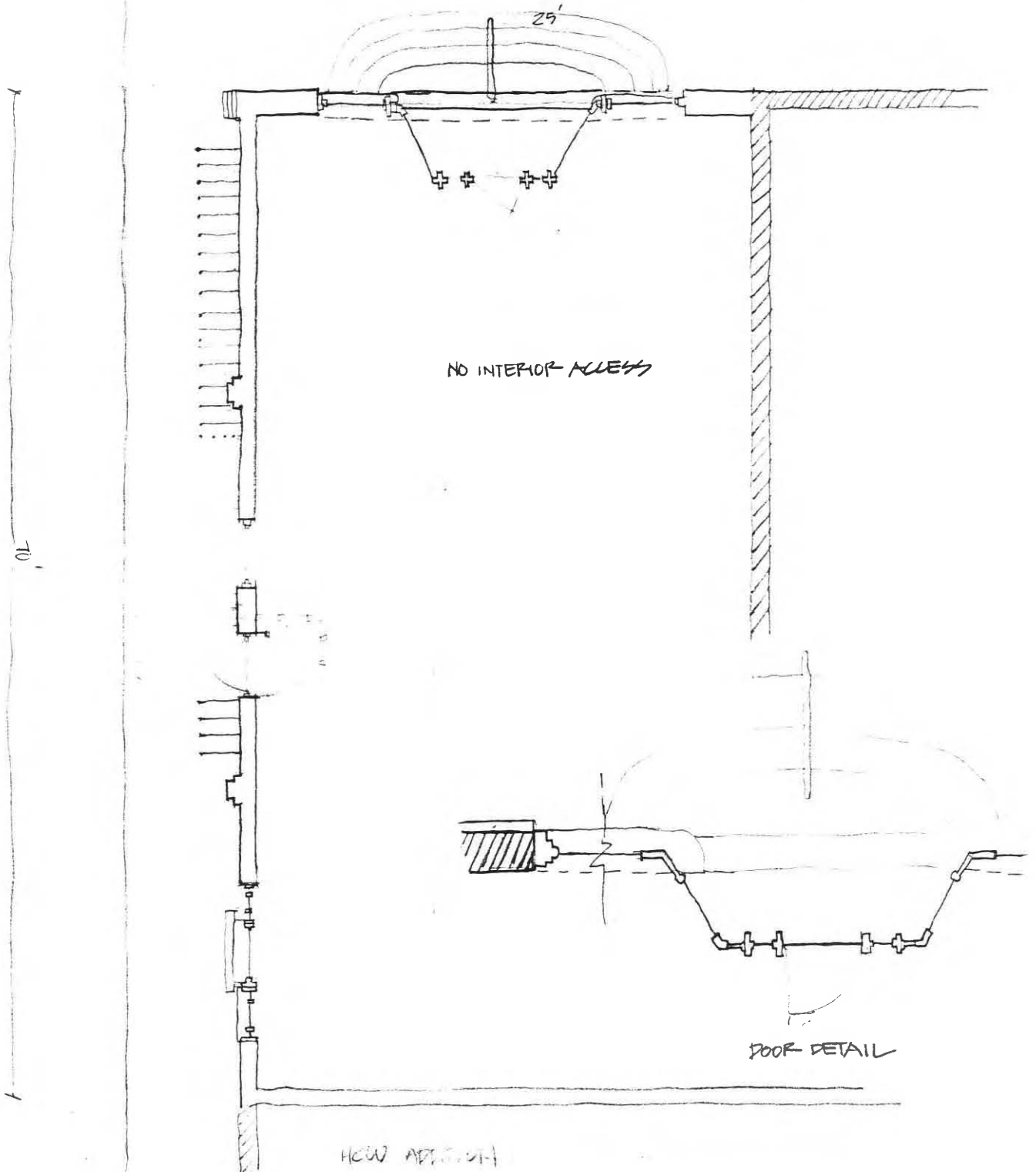
WNOZ-8: PILOT BLDG.
RETAIL COMMERCE
FEB. 24, 1986
DRAWN BY: J. KAY
L. HABERMAN



N
NO SCALE

1841 THE PILOT BUILDING

WASHINGTON ST



WN02-16 The Beyer Building



Architectural Description

Located in the central business district of Blair, the Beyer Building is one of the disappointingly few commercial buildings in Washington County to retain an acceptable level of integrity. Constructed in 1898 under the direction of William Beyer, the building consists of a two-story brick structure protected by a flat frame roof. Rectangular in shape, the building is open on three sides and measures 7.3 m by 21.3 m. The east wall is engaged into the west wall of it's neighbor, the 1892 Sas Brothers commercial building. Supported by a brick foundation and enclosed with brick masonry bearing walls, the Beyer Building originally functioned as a bakery (1900 sanborn maps).

The front or north facade of the building is divided into three 2.4 m bays with a recessed central bay entry. Four cast iron columns decorated with floral motifs and manufactured by Geo. L. Mesker Iron Works of Evansville, Indiana separate the three bays and support a pressed-metal cornice. Additional use of pressed metal details are found in the second story stilted-arch window hoods and cornice. Compromises in integrity are found mostly in the alteration of the street-level facade. The removal of the transom window spanning the facade and the alteration of the original lower display windows constitute the greatest damage. Evidence of a non-extant exterior stairway leading to a purported second-floor apartment also exists.



Historical Summary

A bakery was added to the business district of Blair with the arrival of William and Marie Beyer in 1895. Immigrants from Germany, the Beyer's established their bakery on Main (Washington) Street with the construction of a commercial building in 1898. Theirs was one of the first bakerys to do business in Blair.

In 1898, records show mechanics liens against William Beyer for \$24.40, \$299 and \$216, respectively. Materials included numerous loads of Hill Creek sand used in construction of a two-story building, plaster, windows and frames, yellow pine floor moulding and additional materials and labor to complete a two-story brick building. Deed records also show James S. Riddler performed much of the labor and T. J. Hines as the contractor. A floral shop now occupies the building which is owned by Albert Shultz, now a resident of Weedsport, New York.

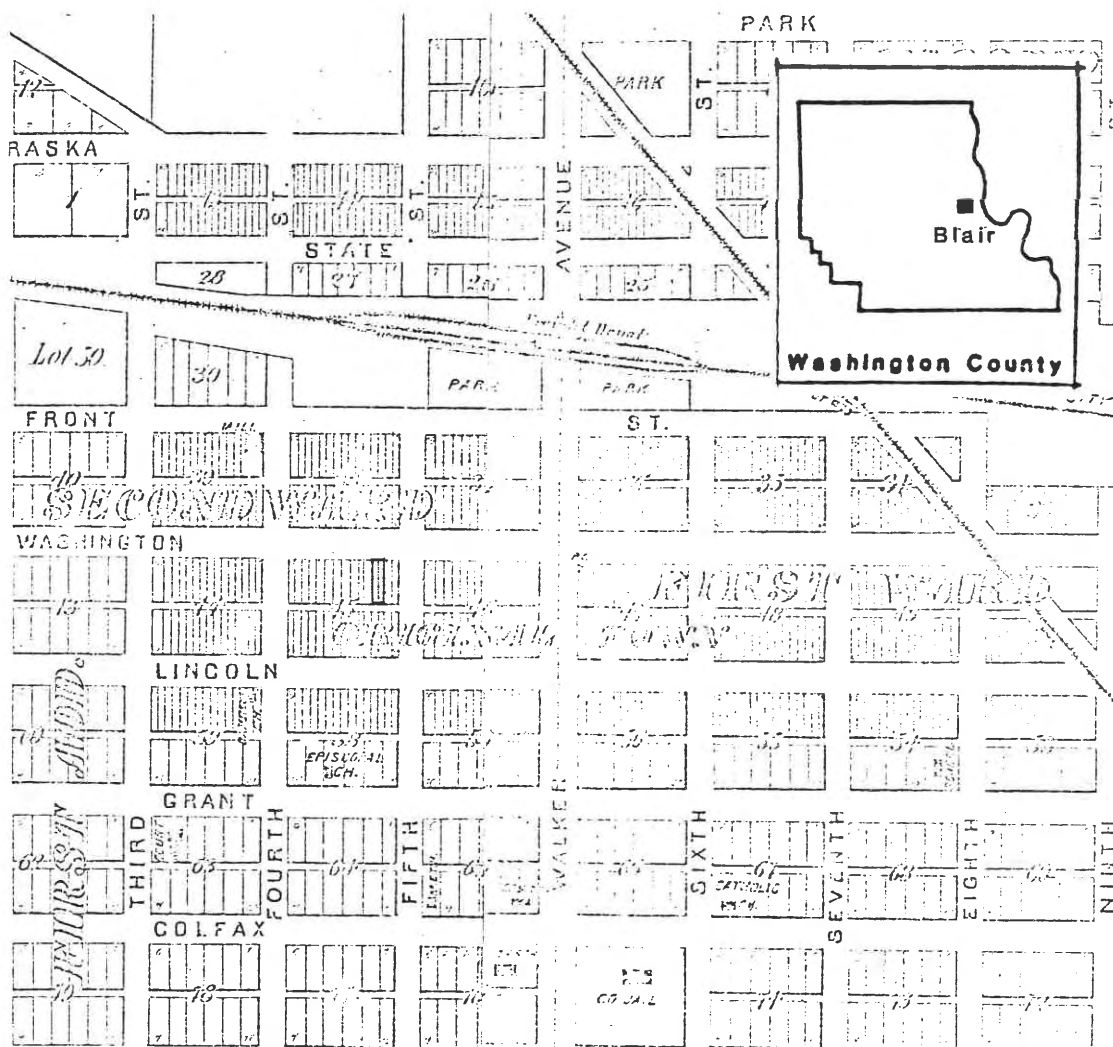
Retail Commerce

WN02-16 The Beyer Building

Relation to Historic Context

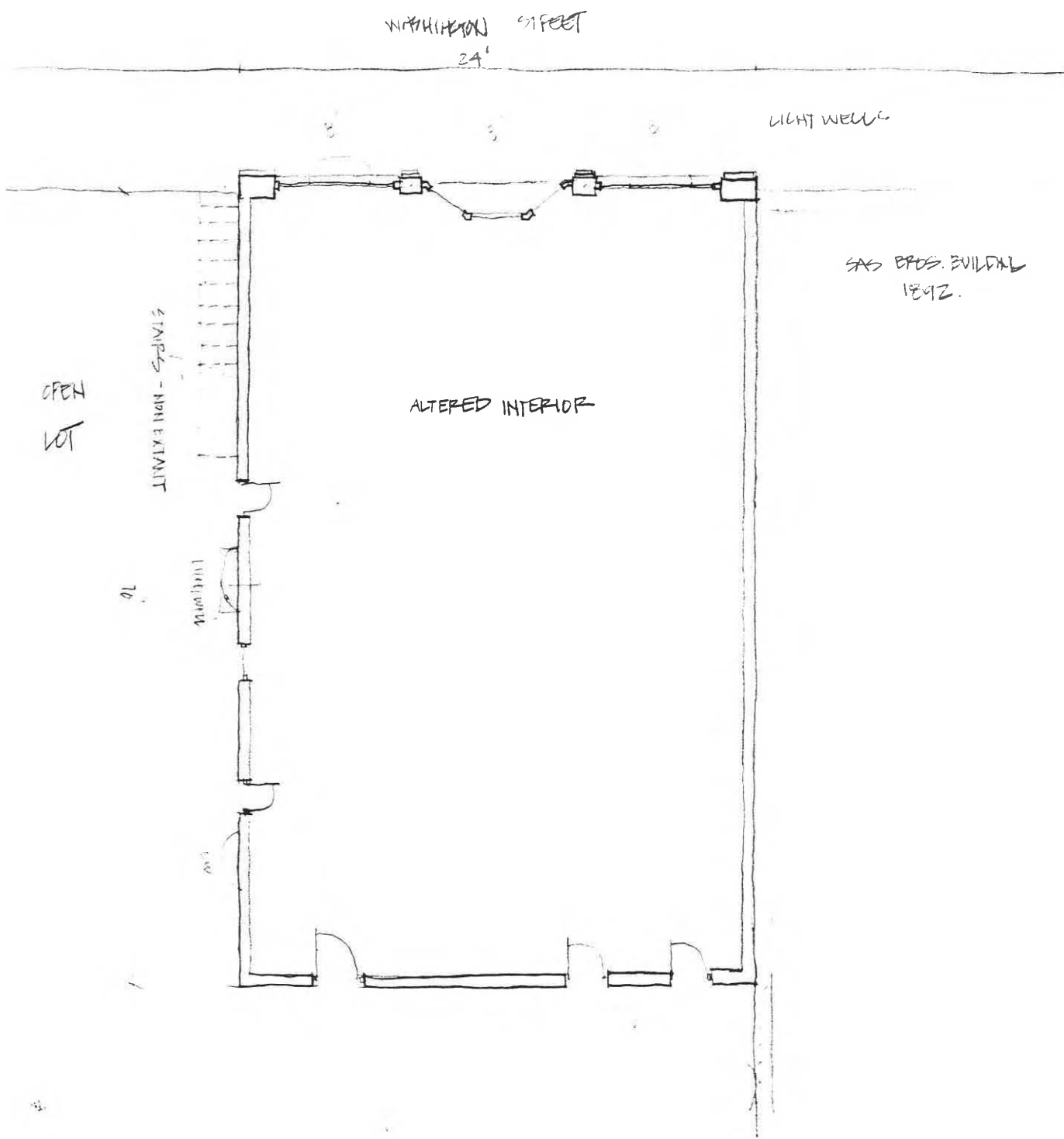
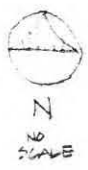
This two-story brick two-part commercial block is a fine example of turn-of-the-century commercial architecture in Blair. It was constructed after the city's major building boom in the 1880's during a lull in commercial construction between the 1890's and about 1904-1905. The bakery is a retail example of the production of the goods on the premises to be sold to the ultimate consumers. The pressed metal ornament and cast iron columns are typical of the era. This is one of the few examples of commercial buildings in Blair which retain their architectural integrity.

Town Location



WINDZ-16: RETAIL LOTTERY
WASHINGTON CO. HAT
BIRD - RIVER, FEB 25, 1926
DRAWN BY - JOHN KAY
LAFD HADPLAN

BEYER BAKERY BUILDING.



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Appendix 4: Topical Listing of Historic Sites

TOPICAL LISTING OF HISTORIC CONTEXTS, WITH NOTES OF INDIVIDUAL SITES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Legend: N.E.: Non-extant; L.I.: Lacked integrity; WN05-19: NeHBS number

RELIGION

Denominations/Sects/Faiths/Cults:

Roman Catholic:

WN05-19 St. John Roman Catholic Church (1883), Fort Calhoun,
Irish

Lutheran Church:

WN00-164 St. Paul Lutheran Church & God's Acre Cemetery, German,
north of Arlington

WN04-4 Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church (1929), Fontanelle,
German

WN00-159 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Orum, began as Scandinavian
Evangelical Lutheran Church

WN07-19 Emmaus Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church (1923), Kennard
N.E. Immanuel Lutheran Church & Cemetery (1889), Admah

Methodist Episcopal:

WN07-1 Grace United Methodist Episcopal Church (1888), Kennard

Presbyterian:

WN05-18 Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church (ca. 1900), Fort Calhoun
originally Congregational

Congregationalist:

WN02-2 Blair Congregational Church (1873), Blair
NRHP, oldest church in Blair

Christian-Disciples of Christ:

L.I. First Christian Church (1920), Blair

Other:

- WN11-9 Washington Community Church (1911), Washington, vacant
 1980
- N.E. Salem Congregation of the Evangelical Alliance (1892),
 Telbasta, German
- WN06-20 Herman Federated Church (1901), Herman, formerly Baptist

AESTHETIC SYSTEMS

Architecture:

John Latenser

- WN02-118 Old Central School, Blair
 School District #20, 3 miles west of Blair, converted to
 residence

O. H. Placey

- WN02-1 Washington County Court House, Blair

C. F. Driscoll, Omaha

- WN02-2 Congregational Church of Blair

POLITICAL SYSTEM

County:

Courthouse:

- WN02-1 Washington County Courthouse, Blair

Township Halls:

- WN04-1 Township Hall, Fontanelle, NRHP
- N.E. Township Hall, Orum, on 1885 atlas
- WN11-4 Washington Hall (1902), Washington, now Knudsen Feed

ASSOCIATION

Fraternal:

Schefflers Hall-Danish Brotherhood Upstairs, Blair
Danish Brotherhood (Bldg.), Herman
Danish Brotherhood (Bldg.), Kennard

Service:

Masons-EASTERN STAR:

WN01-20 Masonic Building (Drug Store, 1980), Arlington

Cemetery Association:

L.I. Morley Cemetery, Arlington
WN00-244 Cuming City Cemetery, 2 miles north of Blair
WN00-190 Vacoma Cemetery, Sec. 7, T19, R10
L.I. Herman Cemetery, Herman (town)
WN00-63 Kennard Cemetery (1891), 1 mile west of town, good gate
L.I. Prairie View Cemetery, started by Danes, 1 1/2 miles west
 of Kennard on Hwy. 31, 2 miles south of Kennard
WN00-69 German Cemetery in heart of German settlement in Richland
 Precinct, 3 miles north, 1 mile east & 1/2 mile north
 of Bennington
WN00-202 Admah Cemetery, Danish

EDUCATION

Schooling:

Elementary/Grade:

L.I. School District #20, 3 miles west of Blair, Latenser
 converted to residence
WN00- Orum School, moved to Alton Larsen farm, now studio and
 museum

High/Secondary/Academy:

WN02-118 Old Central School, Latenser, Blair

College:

WN02-5, 129 Dana College, Blair
130, 131

Enrichment:

Museums:

WN05-1 Historical Association and Museum, Fort Calhoun
WN00-102 Niels Miller Cabin Museum (1857), oldest log structure in
 county (see map)
 Bertrand Museum, Desoto Wildlife Refuge

Nature Preservation:

Neale Woods

HEALTH CARE

Mental:

Drug:

WN02-31 Keeley Institute, now Clifton Hotel, Blair
 cure alcohol abuse

SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

Land Ownership:

Federal:

Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. Opened Nebraska for
settlement

Paper Towns:

Golden Gate, Hudson

Territorial Towns:

Fontanelle, Fort Calhoun

Abandoned Towns:

Desoto, Cuming City, Rockport

Land Use:

Settling/Colonization/Town Siting:

Quincy Colonization Society, Quincy, IL to Fontanelle, NE

Towns:

River:

Desoto, Rockport

Railroad:

Blair, Kennard, Washington, Herman, Arlington

Dwelling:

Single Family:

WN00-27 Markel Summer Home near Desoto, 1/2 mile west of Desoto,
exit on Hwy. 73 (see file)

AGRICULTURE

Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area:

Dairy Farming:

1930's dairying one of top three counties in Nebraska in
amount produced.

PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Breweries, Bottling, Distilleries, Winery:

WN05-2 Kay Apple House, on Main Street, Fort Calhoun
Original built by Metz Brewery

Crop and Grain Milling:

Cereal Flour:

WN02-41 Flour Mill, Blair

COMMERCE

Retail:

Agricultural Industries:

WN01-30 Marshall Nurseries, Arlington
L.I. Fontanelle Hybrids, 1 mile NE of Fontanelle

General Merchandising:

WN02-15 Sas Brothers (1887), 17th & Washington, Blair
WN10-1 Telbasta Store
WN08-1 Orum Store
L.I. Fontanelle Store, 2s conc. blk. (1906)

Specialty Stores:

L.I. Reckmeyer Hardware (ca. 1900), Arlington

Lodging:

WN00-89 1850's Halfway House, rural Hwy. 73, Sec. 71, T19, R11
 now garage (see file)

Professional:

Insurance:

Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, no building, organized
1882, still exists near Washington, German farmers

TRANSPORTATION

Corridors:

Trails:

Mormon, Washington County

Rail:

Chicago and Northwestern Railroad
Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad
Sioux City and Pacific Railroad

COMMUNICATION

Book Publishing:

Danish Lutheran Publishing House, Blair

WASHINGTON CO. NEB.

PERCENTAGE OF DANISH-BORN PERSONS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY IN 1910

* Note: Data recorded by persons age eighteen and older.

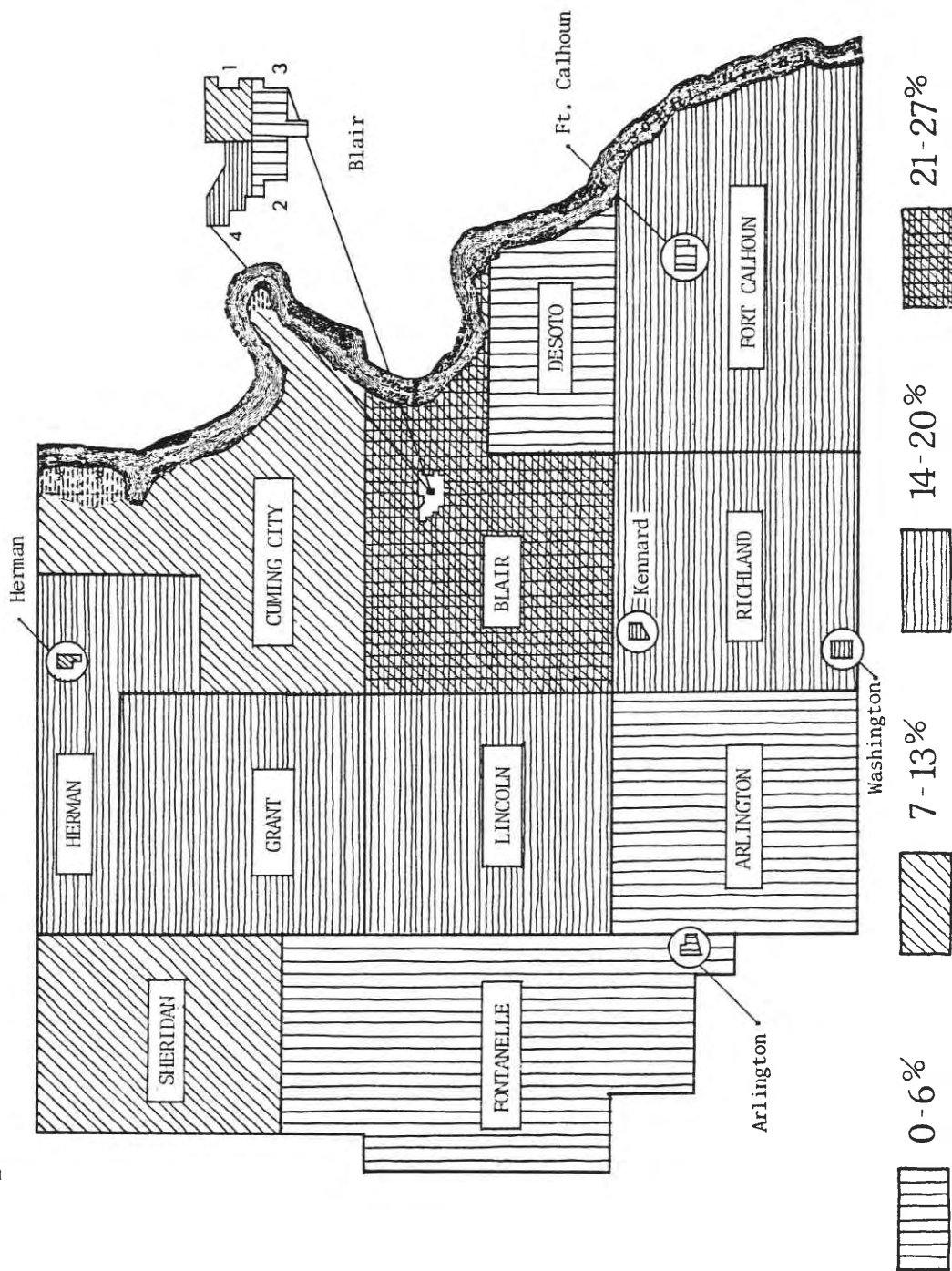
Scale $\frac{1}{2}$ inch = 1 mile

VILLAGES:

Fort Calhoun	0%
Arlington	1%
Blair, Ward #3	1%
Blair, Ward #2	3%
Herman	7%
Blair, Ward #1	8%
Blair, Ward #4	17%
Washington	18%
Kennard	20%

TOWNSHIPS:

Fontanelle	1%
Arlington	4%
DeSoto	5%
Sheridan	8%
Cuming City	9%
Richland	14%
Fort Calhoun	16%
Herman	18%
Lincoln	18%
Grant	19%
Blair	22%



Source: U.S. Census, 1910, as recorded by Mary Findlay and Penny Chatfield Sodhi of Save America's Heritage for the Nebraska State Historical Society, October, 1985.

Map illustration by John Kay

Appendix 5: Washington County Nativity Research

Country of Birth for Persons Age 18 and Over
in Washington County, Nebraska

<u>Arlington Village</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	2%	1%
Germany	6	13	10
Northern U.S.	27	11	3
Midwest	33	40	35
Nebraska	2	17	28
Other	33	17	23

Note: Arlington was named Bell Creek in 1880.

<u>Arlington Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	2%	5%	4%
Germany	20	16	11
Northern U.S.	18	7	3
Midwest	25	28	25
Nebraska	4	25	41
Other	31	19	16

Note: Arlington Township named Bell Creek Township in 1880.

<u>Blair Ward 1</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	NA	9%	8%
Germany	NA	8	5
Northern U.S.	NA	11	3
Midwest	NA	39	38
Nebraska	NA	18	28
Other	NA	15	18

<u>Blair Ward 2</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	NA	2%	3%
Germany	NA	5	10
Northern U.S.	NA	17	11
Midwest	NA	36	28
Nebraska	NA	21	33
Other	NA	19	15

<u>Blair Ward 3</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	NA	2%	1%
Germany	NA	7	7
Northern U.S.	NA	16	10
Midwest	NA	35	40
Nebraska	NA	20	27
Other	NA	20	15

<u>Blair Ward 4</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	NA	19%	17%
Germany	NA	6	7
Northern U.S.	NA	8	7
Midwest	NA	30	28
Nebraska	NA	18	26
Other	NA	19	15

<u>Blair Total</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	7%	7%
Germany	6	7	7
Northern U.S.	26	13	9
Midwest	40	35	34
Nebraska	3	19	28
Other foreign	25 { 9	19	15
Other U.S.	16		

<u>Blair Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	3%	12%	22%
Germany	11	9	5
Northern U.S.	14	6	4
Midwest	39	21	19
Nebraska	5	30	36
Other foreign	28 { 8	22	14
Other U.S.	20		

<u>Cuming City Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	2%	6%	9%
Germany	2	11	8
Northern U.S.	14	10	6
Midwest	49	37	28
Nebraska	5	23	37
Other	28	13	12

<u>Desoto Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	2%	7%	5%
Germany	7	10	3
Northern U.S.	14	7	3
Midwest	34	29	24
Nebraska	10	26	50
Other U.S.-born	12	31	15
Other foreign-born ³³	21		

<u>Ft. Calhoun Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	12%	16%
Germany	34	29	20
Northern U.S.	7	5	3
Midwest	26	16	13
Nebraska	8	25	42
Other	25	23	6

<u>Ft. Calhoun City</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	2%	0%
Germany	14	23	31
Northern U.S.	38	11	7
Midwest	28	26	21
Nebraska	1	24	29
Other	19	14	12

<u>Grant</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	15%	19%	19%
Germany	10	12	8
Northern U.S.	15	6	3
Midwest	27	15	7
Nebraska	1	28	50
Other	32	20	13

<u>Fontanelle</u>	<u>1880*</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	0%	1%
Germany	47	38	24
Northern U.S.	15	4	3
Midwest	24	18	16
Nebraska	3	31	52
Other	11	8	4

*Combined % for Fontanelle Township and Fonanelle Village.

<u>Herman Village</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	2%	7%
Germany	0	2	7
Northern U.S.	24	10	9
Midwest	47	61	32
Nebraska	3	10	32
Other	26	15	13

<u>Herman Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	3%	13%	18%
Germany	0	6	5
Northern U.S.	20	7	3
Midwest	46	39	30
Nebraska	4	19	33
Other	26	16	11

<u>Lincoln Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	24%	26%	18%
Germany	23	22	13
Northern U.S.	17	3	2
Midwest	13	12	10
Nebraska	1	26	53
Other	22	11	4

<u>Richland Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	0%	19%	14%
Germany	39	34	27
Northern U.S.	8	2	1
Midwest	21	8	6
Nebraska	0	25	45
Other	32	12	7

<u>Kennard, Richland Township</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	NA	22%	20%
Germany	NA	6	7
Northern U.S.	NA	4	3
Midwest	NA	29	13
Nebraska	NA	12	32
Other	NA	27	25

<u>Sheridan</u>	<u>1880</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1910</u>
Denmark	12%	9%	8%
Germany	30	29	21
Northern U.S.	10	4	2
Midwest	23	19	16
Nebraska	0	27	47
Other U.S.	25 { 16	12	6
Other foreign	{ 9		

Source: U.S. Census. Data recorded for persons age 18 and older by
Save America's Heritage, October, 1985.

Appendix 6: Functional Listing of Historic Buildings

Farmsteads-212

WN00-3	WN00-37	WN00-78	WN00-116	WN00-153	WN00-192
WN00-4	WN00-38	WN00-79	WN00-117	WN00-154	WN00-193
WN00-6	WN00-39	WN00-80	WN00-118	WN00-155	WN00-195
WN00-7	WN00-40	WN00-81	WN00-119	WN00-157	WN00-196
WN00-8	WN00-41	WN00-82	WN00-120	WN00-158	WN00-197
WN00-9	WN00-42	WN00-85	WN00-121	WN00-160	WN00-199
WN00-10	WN00-43	WN00-86	WN00-123	WN00-161	WN00-200
WN00-11	WN00-44	WN00-87	WN00-124	WN00-162	WN00-201
WN00-12	WN00-45	WN00-88	WN00-125	WN00-163	WN00-203
WN00-13	WN00-46	WN00-89	WN00-126	WN00-165	WN00-205
WN00-14	WN00-48	WN00-90	WN00-127	WN00-166	WN00-206
WN00-15	WN00-49	WN00-91	WN00-129	WN00-167	WN00-208
WN00-16	WN00-50	WN00-92	WN00-130	WN00-168	WN00-209
WN00-17	WN00-51	WN00-94	WN00-131	WN00-169	WN00-210
WN00-18	WN00-54	WN00-95	WN00-132	WN00-170	WN00-211
WN00-19	WN00-56	WN00-96	WN00-133	WN00-171	WN00-212
WN00-20	WN00-57	WN00-97	WN00-134	WN00-172	WN00-213
WN00-21	WN00-58	WN00-98	WN00-135	WN00-173	WN00-214
WN00-22	WN00-59	WN00-99	WN00-136	WN00-174	WN00-215
WN00-23	WN00-60	WN00-100	WN00-138	WN00-175	WN00-216
WN00-24	WN00-61	WN00-101	WN00-139	WN00-176	WN00-217
WN00-25	WN00-64	WN00-102	WN00-140	WN00-177	WN00-218
WN00-26	WN00-65	WN00-103	WN00-141	WN00-179	WN00-219
WN00-27	WN00-66	WN00-104	WN00-142	WN00-180	WN00-220
WN00-28	WN00-68	WN00-105	WN00-143	WN00-181	WN00-221
WN00-29	WN00-70	WN00-106	WN00-144	WN00-182	WN00-222
WN00-30	WN00-71	WN00-108	WN00-146	WN00-183	WN00-223
WN00-31	WN00-72	WN00-109	WN00-147	WN00-184	WN00-224
WN00-32	WN00-73	WN00-110	WN00-148	WN00-185	WN00-225
WN00-33	WN00-74	WN00-112	WN00-149	WN00-186	WN00-226
WN00-34	WN00-75	WN00-113	WN00-150	WN00-187	WN00-227
WN00-35	WN00-76	WN00-114	WN00-151	WN00-189	WN00-228
WN00-36	WN00-77	WN00-115	WN00-152	WN00-191	WN00-229

Farmsteads-212 (Cont.)

WN00-230	WN00-235	WN00-241
WN00-231	WN00-236	WN00-242
WN00-232	WN00-237	WN00-243
WN00-233	WN00-238	WN00-245
WN00-234	WN00-239	

Commercial Buildings-43

WN01-17	WN02-12	WN02-39	WN07-4
WN01-18	WN02-13	WN02-40	WN07-6
WN01-19	WN02-14	WN05-2	WN07-7
WN01-20	WN02-15	WN05-5	WN07-8
WN01-21	WN02-16	WN05-21	WN07-10
WN01-30	WN02-18	WN06-4	WN07-11
WN01-32	WN02-19	WN06-29	WN07-24
WN02-8	WN02-20	WN06-31	WN08-1
WN02-9	WN02-21	WN06-33	WN10-1
WN02-10	WN02-25	WN06-34	WN11-4
WN02-11	WN02-32	WN07-3	

Churches-14

WN00-164	WN05-18
WN00-194	WN05-19
WN01-13	WN06-20
WN02-2	WN06-26
WN02-27	WN07-1
WN02-78	WN07-19
WN04-4	WN11-9

Industrial Buildings-2

WN05-6
WN06-10

Service Associations-2

WN02-17
WN06-21

Existing NSHS Dwellings-4

WN01-1	WN01-3
WN01-2	WN02-3

Lodging-3

WN10-35
WN02-31
WN02-127

Commercial Agriculture-4

WN01-31	WN02-41
WN02-38	WN06-28

Gas Stations-5

WN02-30	WN07-9
WN06-5	WN09-1
WN06-32	

Housing-1

WN02-37

Misc. Town Buildings-3

WN04-7
WN05-13
WN07-16

Town Dwellings-191

WN01-4	WN01-34	WN02-47	WN02-67	WN02-88	WN02-108
WN01-5	WN01-36	WN02-48	WN02-68	WN02-89	WN02-109
WN01-6	WN01-37	WN02-49	WN02-69	WN02-90	WN02-110
WN01-7	WN01-38	WN02-50	WN02-70	WN02-91	WN02-111
WN01-8	WN01-39	WN02-51	WN02-71	WN02-92	WN02-112
WN01-9	WN01-41	WN02-52	WN02-72	WN02-93	WN02-113
WN01-10	WN01-42	WN02-53	WN02-73	WN02-94	WN02-114
WN01-11	WN02-4	WN02-54	WN02-74	WN02-95	WN02-115
WN01-12	WN02-24	WN02-55	WN02-75	WN02-96	WN02-116
WN01-14	WN02-28	WN02-56	WN02-76	WN02-97	WN02-117
WN01-15	WN02-29	WN02-57	WN02-77	WN02-98	WN02-119
WN01-16	WN02-33	WN02-58	WN02-79	WN02-99	WN02-120
WN01-22	WN02-34	WN02-59	WN02-80	WN02-100	WN02-121
WN01-23	WN02-35	WN02-60	WN02-81	WN02-101	WN02-122
WN01-24	WN02-36	WN02-61	WN02-82	WN02-102	WN02-123
WN01-25	WN02-42	WN02-62	WN02-83	WN02-103	WN02-124
WN01-26	WN02-43	WN02-63	WN02-84	WN02-104	WN02-126
WN01-27	WN02-44	WN02-64	WN02-85	WN02-105	WN02-128
WN01-28	WN02-45	WN02-65	WN02-86	WN02-106	WN02-132
WN01-33	WN02-46	WN02-66	WN02-87	WN02-107	
WN04-3	WN05-11	WN06-1	WN06-16	WN07-14	WN010-3
WN04-5	WN05-12	WN06-2	WN06-17	WN07-15	WN010-4
WN04-6	WN05-14	WN06-3	WN06-18	WN07-17	WN010-5
WN04-8	WN05-15	WN06-6	WN06-19	WN07-18	WN11-1
WN04-9	WN05-16	WN06-7	WN06-23	WN07-20	WN11-2
WN04-10	WN05-17	WN06-8	WN06-24	WN07-21	WN11-3
WN04-11	WN05-20	WN06-9	WN06-25	WN07-22	WN11-5
WN05-4	WN05-22	WN06-11	WN06-27	WN07-23	WN11-6
WN05-7	WN05-23	WN06-12	WN07-2	WN07-25	WN11-8
WN05-8	WN05-24	WN06-13	WN07-5	WN07-26	WN11-11
WN05-9	WN05-25	WN06-14	WN07-12	WN08-2	
WN05-10	WN05-26	WN06-15	WN07-13	WN08-4	

<u>Cemeteries-16</u>		<u>Parks-2</u>	<u>Misc. Farm Buildings-6</u>	
WN00-52	WN00-190	WN00-2	WN00-55	WN00-107
WN00-62	WN00-202	WN02-125	WN00-67	WN00-111
WN00-63	WN00-204		WN00-93	WN00-122
WN00-69	WN00-207			
WN00-128	WN00-240			
WN00-156	WN00-244			
WN00-159	WN08-3			
WN00-188	WN10-2			

<u>Schools-16</u>	<u>Depots-2</u>	Governmental & Public <u>Buildings-7</u>	
WN00-1	WN02-5	WN01-29	WN02-26
WN00-5	WN02-118	WN02-1	WN04-1
WN00-47	WN02-129	WN02-22	WN11-7
WN00-53	WN02-130	WN02-23	
WN00-145	WN02-131		
WN00-178	WN04-2		
WN00-198	WN09-2		
WN00-221	WN11-10		

<u>Bridges-2</u>	<u>Banks-3</u>
WN00-83	WN05-1
WN00-84	WN05-3
	WN06-30

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